

Iraq denies raiding Iranian town

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq Saturday denied an Iranian charge that its warplanes had bombed a Kurdish town in northwest Iran. A military spokesman told Reuters the Iraqi jets had raided Iranian troop concentrations on the warfront and had not attacked any residential area. "The Iranian allegations are aimed at justifying their bombardment of Iraqi residential areas along the border with long-range artillery," the spokesman added. Iran said 30 people were killed when Iraqi planes bombed residential areas in Paveh border town, 480 kilometres west of Tehran. Iraq said its planes and helicopter gunships flew 198 combat missions to attack Iranian troops on the 1,180 kilometre warfront Friday. Iran and Iraq have observed a tacit cease-fire in the war of the cities since April 21 after seven weeks of pounding each other's population centres with long-range missiles, air raids and artillery bombardments. Western diplomats believe that thousands of civilians were killed and wounded on both sides in the duelling, in which Tehran was hit by Iraqi missiles for the first time since the Gulf war erupted 7½ years ago. As many as half the capital's estimated six million people fled to the countryside for safety.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

Prince Nayef in Cairo for security talks

CAIRO (R) — Saudi Arabian Interior Minister Prince Nayef bin Abdul arrived in Cairo Saturday to discuss security cooperation with Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr. The Middle East News Agency quoted him as saying he planned to discuss security matters between the two countries during his four-day visit. He also said he was carrying a message from King Fahd, who is expected to visit Egypt next month, to President Hosni Mubarak. Asked about security for the pilgrimage to Mecca in July, Prince Nayef said: "Security measures were (always) taken for the protection of pilgrims but, because of the current situation, other more effective measures will be taken." More than 400 people, mostly Iranian pilgrims, were killed in clashes in Mecca between Iranian demonstrators and Saudi security forces during last year's pilgrimage. Prince Nayef said earlier this month that any political demonstrations this year would be met with force. Riyadh insists that Iran can send only 45,000 pilgrims this year and Tehran, which wants to send 150,000, has hinted at a boycott. Egypt supported Saudi Arabia's decision last month to sever links with Iran.

Volume 13 Number 3785

AMMAN SUNDAY MAY 22, 1988, SHAWWAL 7, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King receives more cables of greetings

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has received more cables of congratulations on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr from leaders of a number of Arab and friendly countries. The latest cables were sent by South Yemen's head of state Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, President Mousa Traore of Mali, President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives, President Joseph Saidou Momoh of Sierra Leone, President Seyni Kountche of Niger, Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands and Sheikh Jaber Al Ali Salem Al Sabah, a member of the royal family of Kuwait.

Bridges closed today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) announced Saturday that the King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges across River Jordan would be closed to passengers and trucks from and to the occupied West Bank today. The bridges will be reopened Monday.

Kuwait invited to Arab summit

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait was formally invited Saturday to attend an Arab summit scheduled to discuss the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories in Algiers June 7, officials said. They said Algerian Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Mohammad Benahmad Abdul Ghani delivered the invitation to Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. Kuwait said earlier it would attend the summit if invited.

16 Egyptians accused of spying for Libya

CAIRO (R) — Sixteen Egyptians accused of accepting money from Libya to carry out a sabotage campaign went on trial Saturday before a supreme state security court. The prosecution said the defendants, including eight still at large, were paid by Libyan intelligence agents for acts of sabotage in Egypt, the national Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

Cheysson: Cyprus division unacceptable

NICOSIA (R) — The European Economic Community (EEC) commissioner for Mediterranean affairs, Claude Cheysson, said Saturday the partition of Cyprus was unacceptable and described Turkey's military presence in north Cyprus as embarrassing. "Partition is clearly unacceptable in international terms," Cheysson told a news conference after talks with President George Vassiliou during a two-day official visit to the island.

Ethiopia frees Selassie family

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — The government Saturday freed seven members of the former royal family imprisoned since a 1974 revolution ended the nearly half-century feudal rule of the late emperor Haile Selassie. The announcement came in a terse, one-sentence statement carried by the government-owned Ethiopia news agency. Freed Saturday were Haile Selassie's 79-year-old daughter, Tenagne-Work Haile-Selassie; her four daughters, Aida, Hirut, Seble and Sofia; her daughter-in-law, Sara Gizaw; and Zuriash-Work Gebere-Egziabher, identified only as a relative of the princess. No ages were available on the other royals.

Reagan prods Senate on INF accord

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan urged the Senate Saturday to ratify the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty before his May 29-June 2 summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow. "This treaty has had a thorough and useful examination in committee," Reagan said in his weekly radio address. "Now the Senate can join with me and show both our allies and adversaries that it, too, wants to help build a brighter peace and better world."

2 Palestinian boys shot and wounded in Nablus protest

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Two Palestinian boys were shot and wounded in clashes between protesters and soldiers in the Israeli-occupied West Bank Saturday, Palestinian sources said.

Mansour Al Kalbat, 17, and Samer Sayed, 14, were treated in hospital for bullet wounds after a protest in Nablus, and troops detained several people in Bnei Naim village near Hebron to quash a protest by stone-throwing Palestinians, they said. Palestinian sources said two people were shot and wounded Friday in a clash in Qalqiya between residents and two local men accused of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities. They said the men opened fire on a crowd who attacked their car with stones, wounding Ibrahim Talab Awaisi, 11, and Ibrahim Orif Awaisi, 22. The army spokeswoman confirmed those were fired during a clash in Qalqiya and two people were taken to hospital in Tulkarem. Supporters of left-wing peace movements demonstrated Saturday outside Ramallah prison

place since the uprising began. Lea Zemel, an Israeli lawyer who represents Palestinian prisoners, described the situation as "a big mess."

A military spokesman said the army imposed a curfew on parts of Gaza City early Saturday morning after Palestinians demonstrated.

An Arab reporter said there was a full general strike throughout the Gaza Strip and stone-throwing clashes between soldiers and protesters. He said at least three Palestinians were beaten by Israeli troops.

Appeal to superpowers

The Palestinians in the occupied territories will ask the United States and the Soviet Union to put their cause on top of this month's superpower summit agenda, Egypt's national news agency reported Saturday.

The Middle East News Agency, quoting well-informed Palestinian sources, said the underground leadership of the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza would make the request in a memorandum to Moscow and Washington carrying a million signatures.

Fighting tapers off in Beirut suburbs, Palestinian camps

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Fierce battles in Beirut's Shi'ite suburbs and Palestinian camps eased Saturday as Syrian and Iranian negotiators worked to set a date for Syrian troops to move into the city's battered south. Weary residents remained huddled in basements as pro-Syrian Amal and Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) fighters traded sporadic rocket fire, police said. The two militias fought themselves to a standstill in the past week with neither side gaining any ground, sources quoted by Reuters said. Their battles, which first flared May 6, have killed at least 1,125. At Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps on the edge of the suburbs, artillery duels between fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and rival pro-Syrian Palestinians tapered off into intermittent exchanges. Palestinian sources said seven factions within the camps had mediated a truce in the fighting, which began Friday. Pro-Syrian political sources said high-level talks between Iran and Syria were taking place in Damascus on final details of the proposed Syrian move into the suburbs. "These talks will result in a decisive decision on what the next step at the suburbs will be and when," one source told Reuters.

Assem Kanso, leader of the Baath Party, the Lebanese chapter of Syria's ruling party, told the AP the Syrians would move into south Beirut soon. "and, God willing, sooner than expected." He said: "The Syrian entry is to rescue our people in south Beirut and halt the bloodshed." He announced that orders to move into south Beirut might be issued in the next 24 hours. He said the Syrian deployment would be "peaceful so that there will be no more blood and destruction." But that will clearly depend on how effectively Syria and Iran can control their unruly surrogates after fighting that has pitted brother against brother. The fighting persisted despite eight ceasefire accords brokered by an Iranian mediator, acting Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati. That "signalled an apparent failure of Iran's efforts to bring about a settlement to the conflict," a police spokesman said. Efforts to contain the fighting shifted to Damascus where Besharati delivered a message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad from Iranian president Ali Khamenei on the situation in south Beirut. Hizbollah leader Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah said his group accepts the entry of Syrian troops into south Beirut's slums. The Barcelona daily La Vanguardia reported that Fadlallah told the paper's Beirut correspondent "that for the safety of residents we have accepted that the

Moscow fires Armenian, Azerbaijani party leaders

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Communist Party Saturday fired the party leaders in the southern republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan, where 32 people died in ethnic turmoil this year. The official news agency TASS said Armenian Communist Party First Secretary Karen Demirchyan was replaced during a meeting in the capital city Yerevan, and Azerbaijani party First Secretary Kyanran Bagirov was replaced during a meeting in Baku, the Azerbaijani capital. TASS gave no reason for the action, but ethnic strife erupted in February over control of the mountainous Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. The replacement of Demirchyan and Bagirov likely reflects concern of Communist Party officials in Moscow that the two party leaders had not been able to control the ethnic unrest. Mass meetings again were reported this week by Armenian activists and the official Baku Radio. Armenian activist Rafael Popoyan said Thursday that there was a "constant danger of an explosion" in Nagorno-Karabakh and that the region was surrounded by soldiers. TASS said Bagirov was replaced by 58-year-old Abdul Rahman Vezirov, who has been the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan. Demirchyan was replaced by 49-year-old Suren Arutunyan, the first deputy prime minister of Armenia. At least 32 people — 26 ethnic Armenians and six Azerbaijanis

were killed in three days of ethnic rioting in the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait beginning Feb. 28. The violence in Sumgait was part of the worst outbreak of ethnic tensions in the Soviet Union in decades and centred on a territorial dispute between the two Transcaucasian republics. In the preceding days, up to one million people had demonstrated in Yerevan in support of demands that Nagorno-Karabakh, a small enclave within Azerbaijan, be made part of Armenia.

Walters arrives in Iraq after hostage talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — U.S. envoy Vernon Walters said Saturday the Syrian government was aware that deployment of its troops in Beirut's southern slums would either "endanger" foreign hostages held there by pro-Iranian fundamentalists, or make them "safe." Walters, the U.S. ambassador at the United Nations, spoke to reporters at Damascus airport before flying to Baghdad, the third stop of a Middle East swing. On arrival in the Iraqi capital, Walters told the Iraqi News Agency (INA) that he would discuss the 7½-year-old Iran-Iraq war with officials. He later met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, the agency said. Before leaving Damascus at the end of a 24-hour visit, he said his trip, which began in Israel, would also take him to "most of the Arab countries, except the two Yemens." He said he hoped to visit Aden and Sanaa on another mission, when he has more time. Walters, however, did not elaborate on the purpose of the tour, two weeks in advance of the arrival in the Middle East of Secretary of State George Shultz. Walters was received in Damascus Saturday by President Hafez Al Assad in the presence of Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharra. He said the hostages, who include nine Americans, and the imminent deployment of Syrian troops in south Beirut were "among all sorts of subjects" that

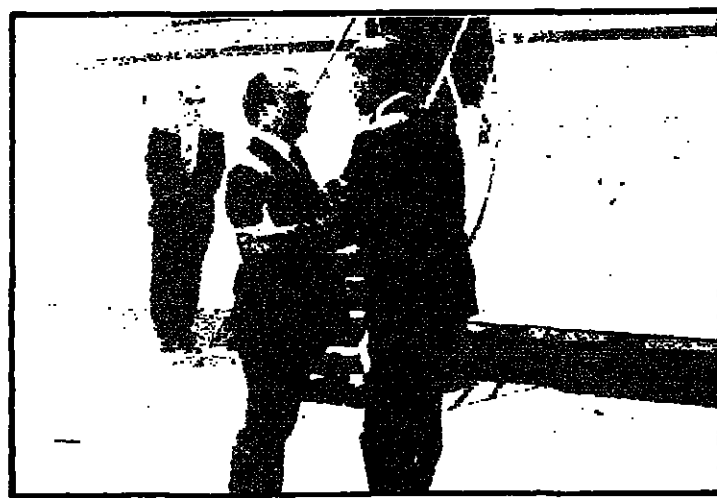
Crown Prince leads top-level team to Jordan investment seminars in U.S.

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan left for the United States Saturday heading a top-level trade and investment delegation to two key U.S. cities on a mission aimed at establishing contacts between representatives of the Jordanian public and private sectors and the American business community.

At a 50-to-1 trade disadvantage with the United States, the Kingdom hopes to reduce the wide gap in the balance of trade through increasing exports and invite American investments to the country.

The mission to Atlanta and Pittsburgh, organised by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in cooperation with the government, includes about 45 private Jordanian bankers and entrepreneurs, in addition to Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa, Planning Minister Taher Kanaan, Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Deputy Governor Maher Shukri



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who left for the U.S. Saturday, is seen off by His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Al Hussein (Petra photo)

and other officials. "The potential for cooperation is there," USAID Director Lewis Reade told the Jordan Times. "But it will mostly depend on the private sector." He said the trade and investment mission was "part of the effort to make the private sector in Jordan an engine of

sub-sectors of the economy: manufacturing, services, trade and finance," Reade said. He pointed out that the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Exim Bank and other government agencies "will do all we can to help this effort."

Dr. Mohammad Smadi, director of the Economics Research Department at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), told the Jordan Times that the mission to the U.S. was part of a new strategy aimed at marketing Jordan abroad (see related story on page 6).

Reade noted that American businessmen know very little about Jordan and that this mission was a good opportunity to acquaint them with the country's potentials and favourable investment climate.

"The object is to begin to market the concept of Jordan as a place to do business with Jordanians," Reade remarked in a recent interview.

Discussions during seminars to be held in the two American cities would focus on Jordan as a

(Continued on page 5)

Masri briefs U.N. team on Israel's oppressive policies

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Saturday briefed a U.N. human rights team on the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and the ongoing Palestinian uprising there, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Petra said Masri explained that the uprising was a reaction to "the continuation of the Israeli occupation of Arab territories." It was also a "reaction to Israel's expansionist plans and its settlement policies in addition to the deterioration of living standards of Palestinians there," Masri told the team, which is headed by Daya Pereira, Sri Lanka's U.N. ambassador.

Masri also explained to the U.N. mission Israel's arbitrary measures and confiscation of Arab lands as well as the deteriorating living conditions in the occupied Arab territories. Israel's measures against the Palestinian uprising include killing and torture of Arabs, demolition of houses, expulsion of Arab citizens from their land, starvation of people, sealing off of Arab areas and denial of medicines to them, the minister told the U.N. team, which arrived here Friday.

Gorbachev: Middle East solution should be balanced

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev has told Egypt's Foreign Minister that any Middle East peace settlement has to take both Palestinian and Israeli interests into account. Gorbachev reiterated in his meeting Friday with Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid the emphasis he placed in a meeting with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat last month on a balanced solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. "Without the PLO's involvement, the process of a settlement will not go forward," Gorbachev said. "But it is no less important to take account of the interests of other sides, namely Syria, Jordan and Israel. The present situation opens up opportunities to con-

Negotiations mean land for peace, Shultz tells Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, preparing for his third Middle East peace shuttle this year, told Israeli leaders that no Arab state would negotiate a peace treaty without land concessions. "The agenda as we see it has to be territory for peace," Shultz said in an interview with Israeli television Friday. He is due to return to the Middle East early next month in another attempt to push a peace plan. "If you say there will never be territory given up, then there's no Arab partner... because they say 'What's there to negotiate?'" he said.

Arab states want to be assured that "something can be worked with, and I believe that's perfectly understandable," Shultz said. The United States has proposed that direct negotiations between Israel and the Arabs be preceded by an international peace conference attended by the members of the U.N. Security Council.

Under the U.S. plan, the conference participants would be prohibited from imposing a solution on the sides to the conflict or vetoing agreements reached by them. "If the Soviets can see their way to playing a constructive role, that would be welcome, but we told them their notion of an authoritative (conference) is just not in the cards," Shultz told the television.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposes the international conference proposal and rejects any reference to relinquishing land for peace. His rival in the coalition government, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, supports the conference.

In the interview, Shultz stopped short of directly criticising Shamir but pointed to three key issues in the peace process on which the United States and the Israeli premier differ.

— The need to give up occupied territory; — The need to negotiate peace within the framework of an international conference; and — The need for a stepped up timetable in the phases of negotiations.

"Everybody has views that they hold and... which we discuss," said Shultz. "Some of the things that the prime minister feels about the proposals we've put on the table of course we don't agree with."

Shultz warned that the situation in the Middle East was dangerous and urged the Israeli government to accept the American peace proposals. "The status quo is not stable, is not satisfactory," he said in comments appeared aimed at Shamir. "It's not my initiative or the U.S. initiative that's in trouble," Shultz said. "It's the region that's in trouble. And that's why I keep coming back."

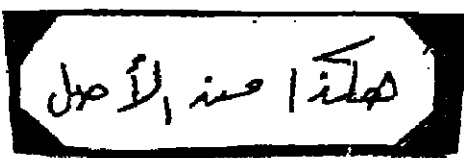
Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak (Continued on page 5)

Afghan fighters seek to take Panjsher Valley

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Afghan Mujahideen have launched a campaign to push Soviet and Afghan forces out of the Panjsher Valley, the home ground of prominent rebel leader Ahmad Shah Massoud. A spokesman for the Jamiat-Islami group said Saturday that Afghan deserters had told a local guerrilla commander, Mahmoud Khan, that the 5,000 Soviet troops still in the valley were planning to withdraw in the middle of June, leaving about 5,000 government troops. The Panjsher, a deep valley which starts about 60 kilometres north of Kabul and stretches into the towering Hindu Kush mountains, lies directly on the right flank of the Soviet forces' line of retreat to the Soviet Union. Ahmad Shah Massoud, the commander of the whole Panjsher area, is dubbed "Lion of the Panjsher" for his defeat of several major Soviet offensives in the area in the eight years since Moscow's troops arrived to support the government in Kabul. The guerrilla spokesman, speaking by telephone from the Pakistani border town of Pesbawar, said that May 15, the day

Soviet troops started to withdraw from Afghanistan under an international pact, the guerrillas took Tanbana garrison. He quoted Mahmoud Khan as saying that "The operation was planned to push enemy troops out of the valley. Such operations will continue."

Mahmoud Khan, a former lawyer, said his guerrillas killed 60 Afghan troops, losing just one of their own men and capturing a large number of weapons and nine combat vehicles, including two tanks. The Tanbana garrison controls a smaller valley which heads off into the mountains on the southern side of the Panjsher. The spokesman said the guerrillas launched diversionary attacks on two other positions in the main valley, Afghan aircraft fired on guerrilla positions in retaliation the next day and killed two men, he added. According to guerrilla intelligence, the Soviet forces have abandoned their post at Bahrak, about 40 kilometres into the main Panjsher, and moved closer to the mouth of the valley around the towns of Anaba and Roh.



The Farndale ladies are coming

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, the Amman Players will present their latest production — a dinner theatre at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. This is their first venture into dinner theatre in Amman, and for it they have chosen to perform an uproarious and hilarious comedy, of which the title alone is guaranteed to raise a smile. It is "The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of Macbeth."

The play, written by David McGilivray and Walter Zeffin, Jr., had its premiere at the Edinburgh Festival in 1983, and has since been performed all over the world by amateurs and professionals alike.

The play introduces the intrepid ladies of the F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society, together with Mrs. Reece, their motherly director, their producer, David Plummer and their stage manager, Henry.

Their ambitious and daring production of the classic Shakespearean tragedy of Macbeth is designed to ensure their place in the Drama Festival Area Finals at Welwyn Garden City, but 9 months of painstaking rehearsals are no guarantee that everything will be alright on the night. Indeed a series of events conspire to turn this sad tale of greed and ambition into a farce.

Due to a shortage of members in the Society, the original cast of Macbeth (which should be 40+) is whittled down to an "economical 7," as Mrs. Reece explained in a recent interview. As a result, each of the ladies plays an average of 4 roles and confusion reigns! The injured Kate, who has taken the meaning of the famous theatrical phrase, "break a leg" a little more literally than was intended hobbles bravely on, despite her plaster-cast; another

character Hilda, misses the bus and her vital role of Lady Macbeth is reluctantly played by Henry; the scenery that manages to remain upright for long enough is wrongly positioned; tempers run high; the prima donna, "struts and frets her hour upon the stage"; the bewildered and at times be-spectacled Dawn stumbles around the stage in blind panic; the sweet-natured Minnie loses her voice; David Plummer collapses when anything goes wrong; no-one can remember their lines; the stage blows up, and their masquerade adjudicator, a certain Mr. George Peach, turns out to have other things on his mind. In short, the F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society's "serious" play is transformed into something Shakespeare himself would find hard to recognise.

A knowledge of the original play is not a prerequisite to the enjoyment of the 1983 interpretation, and if you have never read any Shakespeare, there is an explanation of the original Macbeth by Mrs. Reece in the programme. For those who have studied Macbeth at school, I can only draw on the words of the drama critic of New Society who wrote:

"Should be made compulsory viewing for all those bored kids forced to sit through Shakespeare for the sake of their school exams."

It has met with great success everywhere, and one only has to read some of the reviews it received after its premiere to realise how popular the play has been.

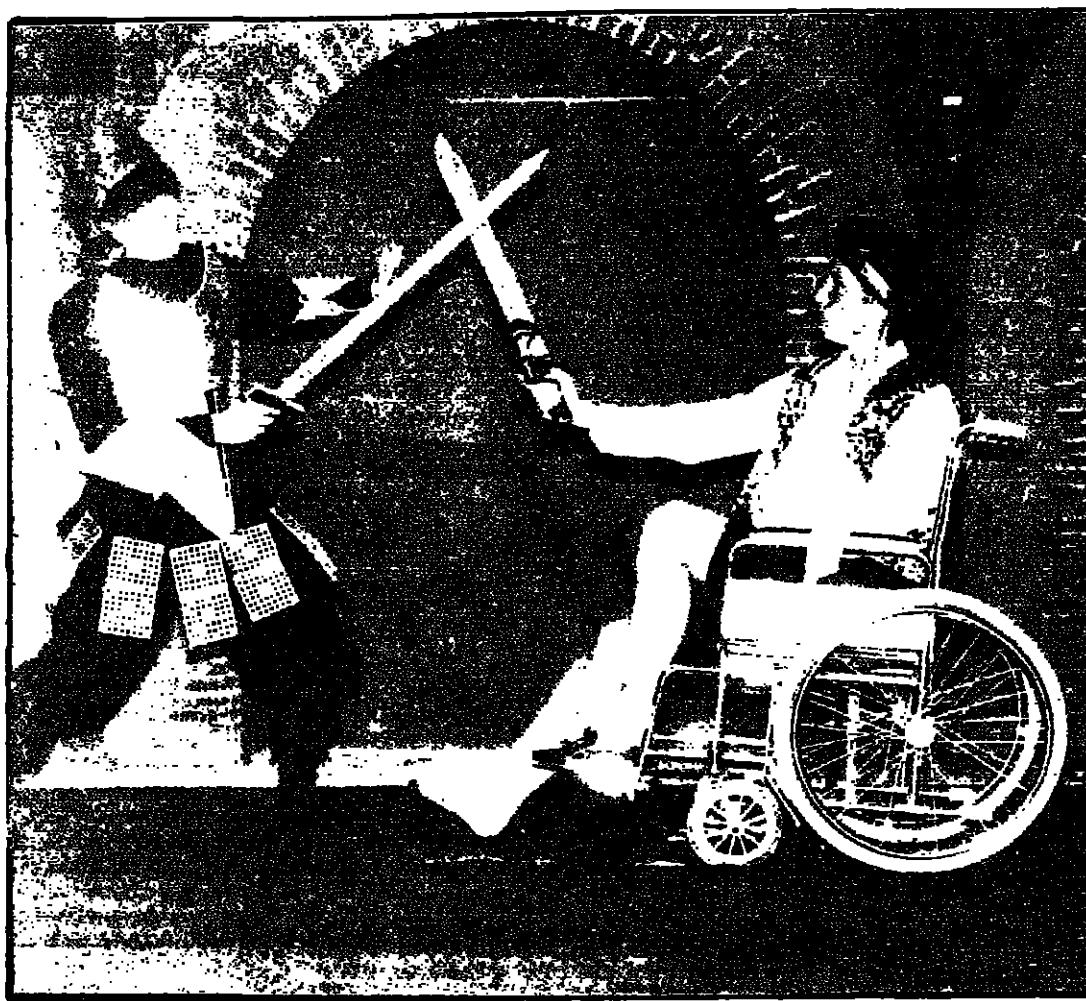
The Scotsman described it as, "One of the most original and hilarious of the year's ideas... a brilliant concept... a barrage of explosive multifarious humour..." the drama critic for BBC's Radio 4 said, "I laughed myself silly," and the Daily Telegraph wrote that it was the "funniest production" he "had ever seen."

And if you thought that Macbeth was the only production by

the F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society then you would be wrong. Others in the series include, "They Came From Maris and landed just in time for the F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society's Coffee Morning," and "The Haunted Through-Lounge and Recessed Dining-Nook at Farndale Castle." The F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society's Murder Mystery is opening in London's West End soon.

So how did the Amman Players, thousands of miles away from Edinburgh, let alone Farndale Avenue, discover the play. I put this question to their director, Julia McKelvey: "I first heard of it in Kuwait where I lived before coming to Jordan, so when I went to England I paid a visit to French's Theatre Bookshop. I remember it well, because it was bitterly cold outside and I spent the entire day trying to find a warm secluded place in which to read it. I ended up in a restaurant where I cried with laughter for about 2 hours, much to the amusement of the other customers at the time. We have had great fun rehearsing and there have been several occasions when the whole cast have collapsed in fits of hysterical giggles. I only hope we can all keep straight faces during the performances!"

As many people will be aware, this is not the first production that the Amman Players have staged in Jordan. Their annual Pantomimes have become an established part of theatre tradition here, and this year's "Sleeping Beauty" was one of their most successful shows to date. Over 1000 people came to see it, many of whom were invited guests from local children's homes. The Danish Dairy gave them ice-creams and chocolate milk, the agent for Snicker Bars in Jordan supplied them with chocolate and Father Christmas came along to give every invited child a present from the actors and actresses themselves.



The final scene (photos by Rob Falkner).

The Amman Players is not just a theatrical group, but is also a charitable organisation. All their profits are donated to local charities and they view this as their most important function. Membership is open to all nationalities and every sector of the community is represented. Due to the nature of the group, they rely on the generosity and cooperation of many local businesses to place advertisements in their programmes, print posters, sell tickets, lend and store props and scenery

and very importantly, support their performances.

The proceeds from this show are going to the Orphanage of St. Vincent de Paul in Amman. This is a home for children of mixed religions from the ages of 3 to 6. Many of these children have no relatives, but a lack of funds means that at the age of 6, they have to leave and move on to the Schneller School in Marja or the St. Joseph Convent. The home wishes to expand so that the children can stay on longer, but at

the moment this is not possible due to limited staff and facilities. Anyone buying a ticket for this show will be actively supporting this worthy cause.

If you would like to see the F.A.H.E.T.G. Dramatic Society's Production of Macbeth, enjoy a truly British meal and donate some money to charity, tickets, priced JD 10 are available from Sweets Supermarket, Istiklal Library (Shmeisani) and the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

Shoman brings Petra alive

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It is not often an exhibition of paintings satisfies the viewer while at the same time holding the promise of more exciting things to come. Not many painters have that much to give. One painter who does is Sulha Shoman whose courageous, bold and vibrant abstracts are filling the exhibition hall at the Royal Cultural Centre this week.

At her last major exhibition at the Jordan National Gallery two years ago, there were among the wild landscapes of the Dead Sea and the more gentle goasches of the rolling hillsides around Um Al-Kundum, some oils that focused closely on rocks — their innate colours, textures and patterns.

These paintings seemed to be the distillation of the landscapes, the synthesis of them and while they were perhaps the end point of that particular series for the artist they also marked another beginning. The promise of more exciting things to come.

Taking her inspiration from Petra and by developing this theme of rocks further, Shoman has fulfilled this promise. Swinging away from the figurative — only a few, more literal landscapes surviving to set the scene and maintain a continuity with her earlier work — Shoman has thrown herself wholeheartedly into capturing the essence of Petra, in mature abstractions of often great simplicity.

Among the most successful of these is a series based entirely on the siq. Using strong uncompromising colours — stark blacks, sapphire blues, iron reds and salmon pinks — Shoman captures the sheer verticality of the walls of that spectacular gorge. In huge confident brushstrokes she pulls the paint downwards leaving in the trails of unpainted paper not only dynamism and energy but patches of subtle light and texture. Running almost central in all these works is a line of light, the crack between the walls that come so close but never touch. As one looks, one realises the whole idea of the siq is there — the precipitous walls, the narrow band of light, the colour and the texture of the rock — and suddenly the paintings are no longer abstract. As the artist says, "The abstract is already there in nature, it just depends on how you see it."

Shoman's works not only allow us to see the abstraction of nature but makes us more aware of what nature symbolises. The solid masses of colour muscling up to one another yet never quite meeting are the conflicting forces of life, — hope and despair, creation and destruction, liberty and oppression — and although it is the line of light that separates them, it is the light which represent life itself that also unifies them.

For Shoman, Petra is full of life, not only because of the very

special light that falls on the ruins, but because of the rocks themselves. Shaped by the wind over thousands of years, the rocks have assumed for her the shape of people, their benign presence welcoming the visitor to the old city.

In the rocks carved by the Nabateans into fabulous facades, Shoman can still feel the soul of the craftsmen who made them. These feelings come across in the artists work, bringing it alive, imbuing it with a rare vitality that turns the contours of the rocks into the warm smooth, curves of the human body.

Another facet of Petra that caught Shoman's imagination were the caves. In more figurative pieces, Shoman attempts to perfection the feel of the cool interior, the colourful walls of the cave seen black against the fierce, glistening sunshine that covers the distant hills. In these, the energy of the roughly painted oil on paper series of the siq is transformed into painterly smooth surfaces that unfold, calm and unburied revealing, the cave walls being the frame of the window through which one looks, the passage of time.

This idea of looking back into history comes together in a large oil painting that dominates the exhibition. Reminiscent of the work of early Flemish painters like Jan van Eyck, the painting at first seems to be about the columns of colour that cut its surface and about what is happening at the front of the picture, like van Eyck's paintings seemed to be about the people he painted. Gradually one realises that what is important in both cases are the landscapes behind it, it is these that give the sense of place and time, of the feelings and emotions of the painter.

This visually stunning exhibition is completed by a screen and oils that capture the wild darkness, the deep blues of Petra at night and by paintings made up entirely of bold stripes of pinks, oranges, reds, purples, blues and browns — the colours of the rocks of Petra when seen up close.

The extent and breadth of Shoman's exhibition is remarkable and through it she shows us just how much Petra has to offer. Her exploration of some of its facets reveals how much more there is to find — its potential is enormous, as is that of Shoman. Shoman feels she could paint Petra for the rest of her life, a conviction and dedication that promises a lot more exciting and provocative work in the future. Shoman is a painter with a lot to give. The exhibition runs until May.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6



The three witches and a friend convince Henry to play the role of Lady Macbeth.



Lady Macbeth (right), well on the way to going mad, is attended by a doctor and lady-in-waiting.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 75111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme review
16:55 Cartoons
17:10 Children's programmes
17:30 Animals Express
17:55 Rama, Rama
18:20 Documentary
18:45 Soccer (Italy)
19:25 Local agricultural programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Programme on Arabic
21:30 Arabic play
22:15 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic series
23:55 Arabic play

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Cornet
18:30 L'Ecole des Femmes
19:00 News in French
19:15 Les Sciences à la une (documentary)
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Check it Out
21:10 Horizon (documentary)
22:00 News in English
22:20 Private Eye
23:10 Richman, Poorman

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz FM
partly on 98.6 KHz SW
Tel: 77411-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
11:05 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Talk
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Listeners' Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rhythm and Blues
19:00 Newsweek
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show continued
21:55 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.

★ Art exhibition by George Kaplanian at the Goethe Institute.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 664371
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637039
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 642303
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665105
Husseini Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 661793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 643555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Muslim artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 631828.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab

REVOLT OF 1916, Sports City, Amman.

Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

Churches

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Terrassanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601369.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7:00 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811293.

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Sunday 6:30 p.m. tel. 822605, Rev. Veli.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815-817, 821-261.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53300-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Agaba (RJ)
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:40 Jeddah (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:20 Kuwait (RJ)
11:30 Kuwait (RJ)
11:40 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:00 London (RJ)
18:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:00 Paris (RJ)
19:05 Frankfurt (RJ)
19:15 Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
19:30 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
06:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:10 Berlin, Larnaca (IF)
10:35 Cairo (MS)
11:25 Kuwait (KU)
11:40 Damascus (AZ)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:30 Sharjah, Doha (GF)
13:45 Kuwait (LN)
16:00 Jeddah (SV)
17:35 Athens (OA)
19:25 Frankfurt (LI)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
22:05 Cairo (MS)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

08:00 Agaba (RJ)
09:30 Kuwait (RJ)
12:30 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
13:30 Vienna, New York (RJ)
20:35 Kuwait, Doha (RJ)
20:45 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
20:50 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:55 Baghdad (RJ)
21:00 Larnaca (RJ)
21:05 Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ)
21:15 Cairo (RJ)
22:15 Damascus (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:20 Damascus, Frankfurt (LI)
10:40 Damascus, Paris (AF)
10:40 Larnaca, Berlin (IF)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
12:25 Kuwait (KU)
12:30 Rome (AZ)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:30 Bahrain, Doha, Sharjah, Muscat (GF)

PRAYER TIMES

03:55 Fajr (Sunrise) Doha
05:27 Jeddah (SV)
15:00 Athens (OA)
16:15 Sana'a (LI)
22:50 Cairo (MS)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It would be rather warm and mild weather, with low clouds appearing at times, and north-westerly moderate winds. In Amman, it will be dusty with north-westerly winds and calm seas.

Amman Min./max. temp. 15 / 26
Agaba 13 / 27
Desert 15 / 32
Jordan Valley 18 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 28 per cent, Agaba 28 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc (for 10) 96.1
Dutch guilder 178.9
French franc 27.9
Italian lira (for 100) 27.9
Japanese yen (for 100) 27.9
Swedish crown 57.8
Swiss franc 249.1
U.K. sterling pound 63.5
U.S. dollar 341.3
W. German mark 207.2

Saturday rates

Apple (French) 400 / 360
Apple (green) 450 / 400
Apple (Larnaca) 300 / 250
Banana (Mukammal) 230 / 200
Banana (Larnaca) 220 / 200
Beans (broad) 120 / 100
Cabbage 130 / 100
Carrot 140 / 100
Cauliflower 200 / 150
Cherry (green) 720 / 600
Cucumbers 150 / 100
Dates (2 kg) 570 / 500
Eggplant (large) 80 / 50
Eggplant (small) 110 / 70
Garlic (green) 200 / 150

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quesneieh 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Amman 192, 7751
Amman ambulance 148
First aid 630341
Blood Bank 776303
Civil Defence rescue 66111
Fireheadquarters 622966
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 896941
Electric Power Co. 6363674, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771253
Queen Alia Int. Airport (06)53334041

NIGHT DUTY

TAXIS
Abraham taxi 663011
Zaid taxi 664176
Khayyam taxi 641541
Carm taxi 819157
Jordan taxi 624980
Kurdi taxi 641784

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 81381372
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn. 6424412
Al-Khalil Maternity, J. Amn. 642362
Madhat, J. Amman 636140
Palestine Shmeisani 6641714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 81584565
Al-Mutashir Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 666166
Italian, Al-Mutashir 7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Army, Marka 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155

GENERAL

Jordan Television 77311114
Radio Jordan 77411119
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Police complaints 661176
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple (French) 400 / 360
Apple (green) 450 / 400
Apple (Larnaca) 300 / 250
Banana (Mukammal) 230 / 200
Banana (Larnaca) 220 / 200
Beans (broad) 120 / 100
Cabbage 130 / 100
Carrot 140 / 100
Cauliflower 200 / 150
Cherry (green) 720 / 600
Cucumbers 150 / 100
Dates (2 kg) 570 / 500
Eggplant (large) 80 / 50
Eggplant (small) 110 / 70
Garlic (green) 200 / 150

MARKET PRICES

Lemon 350 / 300
Mallou 120 / 80
Marrow 150 / 100
Onion (green) 140 / 100
Onion (dry) 80 / 50
Oranges (local) 350 / 300
Peas 650 / 550
Peas 140 / 100
Pepper (hot) 200 / 150
Pepper (sweet) 160 / 120
Potato 150 / 100
Raspberries 800 / 600
Tomatoes 300 / 240
Vine leaves 120 / 80
Watermelon 130 / 80
Sweetmeat 150 / 100

هناك من لا يرى

'UNRWA will not give in to teachers' demands'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has no plans to give in to demands for salary increases by its teachers. UNRWA Acting Director Dennis Brown confirmed to the Jordan Times Saturday.

The statement comes in the wake of a call by a committee representing teachers employed by the agency, for a sit-in at the agency's headquarters Sunday, protesting the agency's position, according to Al Rai Arabic daily. UNRWA hopes that the situation between the teachers and the agency will come to a peaceful end and that the sit-in will not take place on Sunday. Brown told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

The committee has been negotiating with UNRWA directors on the issue for the past three months, the paper reported. The teachers, according to the paper, are demanding that the salary ceiling be raised, and that a health scheme be introduced for the teachers and their families in addition to cost of living allowances and end of service compensation.

The negotiations also centred on cost of living allowances and increments which had been frozen for more than six years, according to the newspaper report.

The paper said that UNRWA's recent decision to grant senior staff members working at the agency's headquarters a 10 per cent salary increase was instrumental in fuelling the crisis.

The committee's move, according to the paper, was considered as an initial step that could be followed by other, more effective actions to force the agency to respond favourably to the teachers' demands.

The committee, the paper added, had sent its demands in writing to the agency's headquarters in Amman and Vienna but received no favourable reply so far.

It said that the teachers plan to take other measures by the start of the coming scholastic year if the agency remained adamant in its position.

The paper, which estimates the number of teachers in Jordan at 4,000 working in 210 schools, said that the agency has been taking a negative stand due to what it calls a financial deficit.

However, as Brown explained in a phone interview with the Jordan Times, the salary system that was developed by UNRWA compares the salaries of those employed by the agency to those employed by the host government. "If those of the agency are found to be lower, then a salary increase is given," he said.

He added that in its 1987 study, UNRWA found that its staff was paid "significantly higher" salaries than their counterparts in the government education sector, and therefore it felt that "an increase was not justified."

However, "staff representatives do not feel that they want to accept that. They feel that a comparison (of salaries) should not be the determining factor," Brown said.

Ministry plans national housing strategy

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Planning and the Housing Corporation are pooling their efforts for a comprehensive national housing strategy to meet the Kingdom's needs until the year 2010, Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh said Saturday.

The minister who was addressing a seminar on low cost housing for low income families said that Jordan now has a surplus of housing units and homes for high income families but a shortage of homes for low and limited income people.

The minister underlined the importance of providing proper homes for less fortunate people in Jordan and for improving some 27,000 existing units by providing them with basic services.

In addition he said the country needs some 40,000 units to meet the growing population in the coming years.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan inaugurates Hay Nazzal Vocational Training Complex Saturday (Petra photo)

Khasawneh: U.S. has no Mideast policy independent from Israel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh Saturday expressed the view that the United States has no Middle East policy independent from that of Israel, and that the U.S. administration cannot condemn Israel's practices for fear of the Zionist lobby in the United States, despite the Jewish state's rejection of the peace initiatives.

This position is adopted by Washington although U.S. allies in Europe continue to condemn Israel's practices in the occupied Arab territories, the minister said in an interview published by the Al Dustour Arabic daily.

Despite this fact, Khasawneh said, Jordan will keep the door open for any developments and with the hope that it will convince the American public opinion of the Arab view.

The American arena, he said, is "most suitable for receiving and accepting our views since ours is a just cause and hence we are hopeful to reach to the minds and the conscience of the American people," the minister said.

Khasawneh said: "Jordan cannot and will not allow any foreign country to exercise any pressure on it under any circumstances, especially where Arab national causes are concerned."

But, he said, there is some kind of pressure exercised by a number of foreign circles on Jordan, and "this is represented in casting doubt on Jordan's capability of maintaining its progress and prosperity. These circles ignoring the fact that this country has established a strong infrastructure for such progress through its army of educated people and a modern state," the minister said.

Jordan, the minister said, is now exposed to brutal propaganda campaigns by Israel which aims to establish a Zionist state from the Nile to the Euphrates.

"For this reason Israel regards the occupied Palestinian land as a liberated Zionist homeland and consider the East Bank as a homeland for the Palestinian people," the minister noted.

Khasawneh echoed His Majesty King Hussein's call for an

international conference to find a just settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict and said that Jordan insists that the Palestinians should be able to represent themselves at the projected conference.

"Jordan considers the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the representative of the Palestinian people and for this reason Jordan was keen on coordinating its steps with the PLO not for imposing any solution on the Palestinians but to help the Palestinians regain their land," Khasawneh noted.

He said that Jordan welcomed the idea of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to the conference, "no because it wants to act on behalf of the PLO but to help achieve the liberation of Arab land from Israeli rule as a first stage."

"King Hussein has made it clear in his speeches during Iftar banquets in Jordanian cities that Jordan will find no objective in joining the Palestinians in a joint delegation, with each party striving to achieve what is best for the Arab cause," the minister noted.

"The Arab-Israeli conflict would not end by any decision on the Arab part, on the question of representing the Palestinian people at the coming conference, since Israel rejects the whole idea of the conference, continues to hold on to the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and continues to deny the rights of the Palestinian people," Khasawneh noted.

He said that for this reason King Hussein was keen on maintaining the unity of the Jordanian family which groups people from the East and the West Banks and from areas occupied since 1948.

"King Hussein is also keen on maintaining unity among his people so that the Kingdom's stability and progress and prosperity can be ensured, since no progress can be achieved in the presence of divisions and suspicion."

For this reason, he said, King Hussein has been keen on underlining the Kingdom's determina-

tion to extend help to the Palestinian uprising and to offer the Kingdom's 120,000 troops in defence of the Arab homeland in the face of any Israeli aggression.

Special kind of ties

However he said the unity of the two banks, the intermixture of the peoples on the two banks of the River Jordan makes the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship of a special kind.

For this reason, he said, King Hussein has been keen to voice total support for the Palestinians in their struggle for freedom and an end to the Israeli occupation.

"But as to the representative of the Palestinians at the coming conference, Jordan insists that the Palestinian people should be made to represent themselves through the PLO which is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in accordance with a pan-Arab consensus reached at the Rabat summit meeting."

Khasawneh said that the Arabs are delighted over the uprising which has broken out as a result of 20 years of occupation accompanied by oppression.

The minister tackled the situation in Lebanon, the Gulf and touched on the coming Arab summit to be held in Algiers. He said Jordan will attend the summit because it supports all efforts to promote Arab solidarity.

On the domestic side Khasawneh said that the Jordanian dinar is strong despite the economic recession in the Arab World due to the retreat in the oil prices.

"We have all reason to believe that the dinar will maintain its stability and we are hopeful that the national economy will be boosted further through exports and through cooperation of various sectors."

Referring to the Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily the minister said that the government has taken measures to enable this newspaper to forge ahead and perform on equal footing with the Al Rai and Al Dustour newspapers.

Week of lectures begins at Shoman Foundation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A week of lectures begins Sunday on a variety of subjects by Arab intellectuals and professors at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation. Two lectures will be presented nightly, at 4:00 and 6:00.

On Sunday, Dr. Ilyas Khoury from Lebanon will speak on "cultural invasion of the Arab World" and Dr. Suhair Latif from Lebanon will deliver a lecture entitled: "Wasting children's rights: Between texts and realities."

Dr. Kamel Sawafeeri will be speaking Monday. However, the topic has not been yet disclosed. Sawafeeri will be followed by Dr. Abdullah Al Dawahi from Iraq, who will discuss "political issues in the information system."

On May 24, Dr. Burhan Ghalioun from Syria will deliver a lecture on "sectarianism issues and minorities' problems." At 6:00 Latif will speak on "terrorism."

Mahmoud Swaid will present a lecture on May 26 entitled "attempts of Palestinian studies institutions on the occasion of 25 years of their establishment." Dr. Amal Naji from Iraq will follow with a speech on "general guidelines for management of information systems."

Ending the week, Dr. Hassan Al Sharif will speak on "information systems and development in the Arab nation," followed by Dr. Nabil Al Bakir's lecture on "limiting the use of insecticides for the treatment of agricultural diseases in order to lessen the harm to people and nature."

Crown Prince inaugurates Hay Nazzal complex

'Vocational training should be linked to community needs'

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday underlined the importance of vocational training as a tool for containing and dealing with the problem of unemployment in the Jordanian society.

Speaking at a ceremony for the inauguration of the Hay Nazzal vocational training complex set up by the Ministry of Education, Prince Hassan also laid stress on the quality of vocational training, calling for the recruitment of the best available instructors to achieve that objective.

"Human resources undergoing training at vocational schools should be offered courses linked to the needs of the community and their skills ought to be developed practically so that they can be involved in different activities," Prince Hassan said.

What is required, Prince Hassan said, is to enable Jordanians to replace some 150,000 non-Jordanian workers now employed in the country, and "this can be done through training Jordanian youths in a variety of fields including nursing, health services and other related activities."

It is time for Jordanian teachers to play a more positive role in bringing about a real

change in society by concentrating on subjects that enable their students to offer real service to their community," the Prince noted.

He said that the time is ripe for distributing the best instructors to urban and rural regions where vocational schools exist next to industries so that they can offer the best training for graduates joining these industries later on.

He called on educationalists, parents and others involved in the educational process to cooperate in order to overcome the problem of unemployment.

Prince Hassan also called on concerned authorities to organise exhibitions where different types of work produced by trainees can be displayed to the public, and can benefit employers and industries.

At the outset of the ceremony, Ministry of Education's Vocational Training Director Ahmad Atwan delivered a speech in

which he said that the development of modern technology in the world makes it incumbent on Jordan and the Arab World give more attention to the development of manpower skills.

In reviewing the ministry's endeavours in promoting vocational training, Atwan said that the ministry has opened 104 vocational centres in the Kingdom accommodating some 29,000 trainees being offered 32 different specialised trades that cover industry, agriculture, commerce, hotel management and nursing.

Unlike academic training, vocational training, Atwan noted, requires costly equipment and facilities, "and for this reason, the cost of training is increasing every year."

The first national educational conference held last September recommended that vocational schools embark on production work which is indeed part of the practical work for trainees at the workshops, Atwan noted.

He said that items produced and sold at vocational schools have so far brought in JD 235,000 in returns, which is to be used in improving the vocational schools, modernising their equipment, carrying out maintenance and

raising the skills and efficiency of instructors.

This year, the ministry will open the first school for training youths on printing, binding books and other related skills, and will step up courses in computer science for students at all school levels, Atwan announced.

He said that the ministry will also create a special department to take charge of vocational training in terms of planning, supervising and following up the implementation of programmes.

After the speeches, Prince Hassan opened an exhibition displaying items produced by trainees of 75 vocational centres around the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan, who inspected the various items on display received a token gift from Minister of Education Thougan Hindawi to mark the occasion.

The Hay Nazzal School, opened as part of the Kingdom's celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers and Independence Day, accommodates 1,200 trainees.

The school which cost JD 900,000 to build and furnish has 12 classrooms and five workshops for different trades.

Ministry to start implementation of first educational conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education will start implementing resolutions passed by the first Jordanian educational conference at the beginning of the 1988/1989 scholastic year, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thougan Hindawi announced Saturday.

The coming scholastic year, the minister said, will actually serve as a transitional stage that will precede the full implementation of the resolutions taken during last September's conference, which was held under royal patronage, Hindawi noted.

He said the following steps will be implemented, starting the coming scholastic year.

First: Education infrastructure. The present compulsory stage of nine years will be increased to be 10 years while the secondary stage will consist of two years, either vocational or academic, in accordance with the students' capabilities, the minister noted.

Under the present system students go through nine years of compulsory education, six at the primary and three at the preparatory stages and three at the secondary stage.

According to the minister, students at the compulsory stage in the new system will be provided with some practical skills which will make them have a taste of the more advanced vocational training in the secondary stage.

The ministry has made plans for the easy transition of students from the present system to the new system in a manner that would not present any psychological problems, Hindawi said.

He listed the following measures to ensure the projected smooth transition:

A) The cancellation of the secondary stage admission examination, for the 1988/1989 scholastic year, which used to be imposed by students finishing the third preparatory stage and entering the secondary stage. Students' school results will be sufficient for determining their promotion to the 10th class (the present first secondary class).

B) Students who pass the 1989/1990 scholastic year's ninth class will be admitted to the 10th class in accordance with their school results either in the academic or vocational streams.

C) Teachers will start gathering the results of students in the second preparatory (eighth) class in the scholastic year 1988/1989 and those of the ninth class in the 1989/1990 scholastic year and the tenth class in the 1990/1991 scholastic year, so that they can

accumulate final results for students to determine the students' promotion to the second secondary stage by the scholastic year 1991/1992.

D) All successful students in the 1987/1988 scholastic year will be accepted in the secondary stage for the coming year, although some of them will be absorbed in the vocational schools run by the Ministry of Education, the Armed Forces and the Vocational Training Corporation.

Second: Curricula. The minister said that as of the 1989/1990 scholastic year new textbooks will be introduced into the schools in accordance with a given timetable.

First he said the new textbooks will be introduced to the first, fifth and ninth classes in the 1989/1990 scholastic year, then in the 1990/1991 scholastic year new textbooks will be introduced into the second, sixth and 10th classes and the process will continue over four consecutive years so that all the school stages will be covered.

Third: Raising teachers efficiency. Hindawi noted that plans have been laid down for recruiting and training teachers at all school stages through a programme sponsored by the Ministry of Education and the higher educa-

tional institutions. These programmes, he said, cover all aspects of teaching in Jordan in terms of quality and quantity.

As part of this programme a high school teachers training college will be established and will accept trainees as of the coming scholastic year, the minister pointed out.

He said the projected college will offer trainees 10 different courses covering all school specialisations and subject matter.

This college, the minister noted, will award BA degrees once the students have completed 134 credit hours.

According to the minister an estimated 22,000 government teachers, with community college diplomas, will be able to pursue their studies at the new college while retaining their present occupations.

Moreover, the Ministry of Education has made plans for short term training courses — two to three weeks — to offer quick training to some 4,000 teachers and enhance their skills and performance, the minister noted.

These courses, he added, can be held during the summer holidays.

Hindawi said that specialised teams of teachers and supervisors are now involved in intensive

meetings to lay down the new curricula.

He also announced that a new education law, covering the new set up, will be published after it has been endorsed by the cabinet and the parliament at its coming session.

Fourth: School buildings.

Mr. Hindawi said that the Ministry of Education has adopted a plan for setting up school buildings on purchased plots of land in accordance with the resolutions of the educational conference.

The new schools will help the ministry to dispose off the rented buildings and end the present two shift school system, the minister noted.

At present 176 buildings are being built in different regions, of these, half would be operational in the second half of this year, the minister added.

Twenty one of these are being built in the Amman governorate, 12 in Zarqa, 20 in Irbid, 10 in Balqa, three in Mafraq, eight in Karak, six in Maan and two in Tafleh, Hindawi explained.

In addition the ministry will award tenders for 52 other schools in the coming stage, Hindawi noted.

He said that these schools will be built within 1988-1994 plan.



BRITISH WEEK: Jordan will host for a week a variety of shows, lectures and exhibitions aimed at selling Britain to the people of Jordan and promoting tourism to areas in the United Kingdom other than the capital, London. The British Week, which is being held at the Marriott Hotel and is

sponsored by British Airways, is displaying an extravaganza of British heritage, among which are replicas of the crown jewels. A giant hot air balloon will be flown and there will be an English pub night, a mediaeval banquet, jesters and minstrel. A commercial

exhibition is also held in the hotel lobby featuring antiques, computers, pottery and china. The photo shows the British Week is officially opened Saturday by British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve and will be open to the public until May 27.

'Beria pilots to train at Lufthansa

OFFICIAL opening of new pilot training complex in BRE Spain's Iberia Airlines is to have its pilots trained at Lufthansa commercial pilots school in BRE and PHX, Arizona, under a ten-year agreement between the German and Spanish FAS carriers.

Forty eight Iberia trainee pilots will be instructed annually on four Lufthansa training courses, each with 12 participants.

The first course begins in September 1989.

The conclusion of the agreement was announced by Lufthansa Chairman Heinz Ruhnau at the inauguration of the new pilot training complex in BRE on April 14 1988.

factors of Lufthansa quality," he said.

Quality also has its price. The new training centre, equipped with computer-based instruction facilities as well as four new twin-engine Piper Cheyenne IIIA training aircraft and three full-flight simulators, has cost Lufthansa a good DM 110 million, explained the Bremen school director, Flight Captain Dieter Harms.

Since this keeps pilot training up to the highest standards, it is money well spent.



ART EXHIBITION: An art exhibition by Ghada Dahdaleh will open Monday at the Petra Bank Gallery on Wadi Saqra Road. On display at the exhibition, which runs until May 31, are 25 silk paintings of different kinds of flowers.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Don't reduce banks interest rates

WHAT would be the direct results of a decision by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) to reduce the scale of interest rates by say one percentage point? A local economist (Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar) answered this question simply by stating that investments will be encouraged. He assumed that the rate of interest is the only or the main hurdle facing the revitalisation of investments in the country, at this stage.

Our answer to the above question is that an artificial reduction of interest rates below the rate that would otherwise be determined by market forces, and in

the light of supply and demand, would give the following four undesired results:

First: Lower interest rates will promote more current consumption. Some observers think that people borrow money or discount bills only to establish new factories or erect new buildings or finance new investments and not for consumption purposes. No doubt, the lower interest rate will make buying a new car or refrigerator or video tape recorder by installments more attractive. Thus the lower interest rates will definitely increase consumption expenditure and reduce the

national savings.

Second: Some large and small savers will prefer to invest their own savings directly in low return investments as long as it is higher than the low interest rates that could be earned by depositing the funds in a saving account. Thus the reduction of interest rates will have the effect of transferring financial resources to an individual's low quality, low return investments, at the expense of well studied, more feasible and regular projects of higher return that the banks would have used the individuals savings to finance.

Third: Lower cost of borrowed capital will tempt investors to prefer capital intensive operations over labour intensive projects. Thus unemployment will increase, and foreign exchange will be spent to import unnecessary machinery and other automation equipment to replace labour.

Fourth: The reduction of interest rates will result in the transfer of income to the well-to-do at the expense of the poorer groups. Some people harbour the impression that depositors are more likely to be rich, and bor-

rowers are more likely to be poor. Looking into bank books will prove the opposite. As a matter of fact you have to be financially sound in order to qualify for borrowing from a bank, while if you were poor you would not be acceptable at the bank except as a depositor.

Yes, reduction of interest rates, or, for that matter, the imposition, by the authorities, of low ceilings, will result in all these undesired and harmful results.

Therefore, the Central Bank will be well advised to reject the bad advice to reduce interest rates and, instead to implement

its own declared policy of more flexibility in the area of interest rates. It should be of course clear that flexibility of interest rates is one thing, and fixing low interest rates or lower ceilings irrespective of the size, quality and risk of borrowers, is something else.

So far we have experimented too much with the method of trying to solve problems by de-creeing and failed to accomplish results. It is high time we try to practise proper monetary policies to influence interest rates, and other prices, to serve the objectives of the state's general economic policy, if any.

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

A timely signal

THE visit to the Soviet Union this week of Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid has both practical and symbolic significance. On the practical side, the economic, trade and cooperation accord signed between the two sides should provide Egypt with some needed assistance, particularly in improving the capacity and efficiency of industrial plants and infrastructural facilities which were built with Soviet assistance in recent decades. On the symbolic side, the visit is a timely and important signal to all concerned — particularly to the United States and Israel — that the Soviet Union is an essential component of any serious effort to launch a negotiated solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Egypt is perhaps the most dramatic case of an Arab state that has shifted its orientation from one superpower to another, as the late President Sadat did when he broke ties with Moscow in favour of a new link with the United States. President Mubarak has embarked on an eminently sensible course of redressing the balance, by maintaining good relations with Washington while restoring good working ties with Moscow.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's remarks to Mr. Abdul Meguid, to the effect that both Israeli and Palestinian concerns had to be taken into account in any peace process, suggest that Moscow is aware that a genuine peace process can only be launched, and succeeded, if it is based on a balanced approach.

We sense that Moscow is aware of its central role in the region, and is pursuing a diplomatic approach that would see it play its proper role in any negotiating process. We hope the message has been received in Washington and Tel Aviv, and that we will hear less nonsense from the Americans and the Israelis about the Soviet Union's alleged capacity for mischief-making. We see a constructive attitude in the Soviet position in the Middle East, which is reflected in the welcomed dynamic between Moscow and Cairo. There are signs that this is part of a broader Soviet strategy that encompasses the resolution of other regional conflicts in the world, and it would be in the interest of all parties, whether Arab, Israeli or American, to recognise this new fact and respond to it in a positive manner.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Pan-Arab force

IT is natural to hear favourable response from the Arab World to King Hussein's call for the formation of a rapid deployment force. The call means that the Arabs should have a united stand and a pan-Arab corps ready to be deployed anywhere in the Arab world that might be exposed to external danger. This has been longed for over the years by Arab masses who consider collective Arab action as an essential requirement for the attainment of fruitful results, and for success in the common endeavours to regain usurped Arab lands. The Arab Nation has tried for several years to advocate its cause peacefully, and it will no doubt continue to seek peace based on justice. But, such a stand should be backed by power if efforts are to bear good fruit. The projected Arab corps would constitute a nucleus for an Arab military might, and it is therefore incumbent on Arab governments to think seriously about the idea of building up such a unified force to help attain the aspired peace. It should also be emphasised that the formation of such a force remains an essential task for Arab leaderships who wish to attain a strategic balance with the common enemy and who want to thwart the enemy's ambitions for expansion at the expense of the Arab World. In the past years, the Arabs have been suffering a great deal due to lack of strategic balance, and they have been exposed to numerous dangers and internal splits and divisions due to lack of consensus and agreement. Thus, forming a pan-Arab force would mean taking a first constructive step towards attaining the aspired goal, since joining forces is bound to help the Arabs regain their usurped rights and holy places.

Al Dustour: Destruction continues

BLOODY fighting in the southern regions of Beirut has entered its third week without any sign that the conflicting parties are ready for a ceasefire. Nor are there any indications that one party can achieve a final victory over the other in the struggle for supremacy that has brought about further suffering for the Lebanese people and caused so much social and economic destruction to Lebanon. The continuation of fighting could force the Syrian troops stationed in Lebanon to intervene militarily and put an end to the bloodshed though there are certain circles which still oppose a Syrian move into the southern regions of the Lebanese capital. The past two weeks witnessed not only the death of scores of innocent people but also the emergence of new political groupings and new realities on the Lebanese scene, opening the door for foreign forces to be involved directly in the conflict. What has been happening in Beirut over the past two weeks is looked on as very serious and posing a grave danger to the Arab Nation since the fighting brought in Iranian forces into the Lebanese capital, imposing their will on an Arab country. The Amal militias who are fighting Hizbollah forces had lost credibility in the eyes of the Arab World for their atrocities against the Palestinian refugee camps, but there is no doubt that the Arabs are now unanimous on the need for ending the fighting to save innocent civilians and help bring peace to the embattled nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iranian infiltration

THE past 12 years have witnessed the death of tens of thousands of innocent people in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon as a result of the civil war and the feuding political parties. This war is continuing among factions striving to extend their domination on the southern district of the Lebanese capital. This massacre, going on in Lebanon now, should open the Arab people's eyes to the great danger of the Iranian infiltration in Lebanon; and should serve as a lesson for all Arab governments that allow foreign elements to wreak havoc in the Arab region. Iran has sent an army to fight against the Lebanese people in order to impose its will on the Lebanese government although Lebanon is not at war with Iran.

S. Africa, Angola seek confidence for making peace

By Pascal Fletcher

Reuter

BRAZZAVILLE — South Africa and Angola, foes in the 13-year-old Angolan conflict, are seeking through talks a base of trust to carry forward delicate peace negotiations.

A 3½ hour meeting in Brazzaville May 14 between South African and Angolan ministers was an important step in peace initiative that has gathered momentum since the start of the year and was boosted by multilateral talks in London last week.

The Brazzaville meeting, though brief, signalled that efforts to end the Angolan conflict and secure independence for South African-ruled Namibia were still on course, diplomats following the negotiations said.

South Africa stepped up its role by sending Foreign Minister P. W. Botha to the talks, held in a palm-shaded villa in the Congolese capital.

Botha, making a rare excursion to a black-ruled state, took an upbeat line in Brazzaville, hailing a spirit of frankness and understanding at the meeting.

"We as Africans ought to resolve our problems ourselves," he told Angolan Justice Minister Fernando Franco Van-Dunem who led his country's negotiating team.

The ebullient South African minister was accompanied by Defence Minister Magnus Malan, a sign of the importance South Africa attached to the talks.

Despite the international implications of the Angolan war, where South African troops and U.S.-supported Angolan rebels are fighting Soviet-backed government and Cuban forces, Botha and Van-Dunem said they had mainly discussed bilateral issues.

Diplomats said it was a measure of the success of their meeting that they announced afterwards they wanted multilateral talks on Angola, which would also involve Cuba and the United States, to be held in Brazzaville in the next few weeks.

This would be a follow-up session to the discussions in London on May 3-4 which brought the four together for the first time.

Neil Van Heerden, Director General of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria, said of the Brazzaville talks: "This reinforces the process of discussion and confidence building."

But diplomats from both sides cautioned against excessive optimism and said the path ahead was long and hard.

"We are not close to a solution. There is hard work still ahead," one diplomat, who asked not to be named, said.

He added: "It's heavy stuff but at last it's on the table."

The course of the war in Angola is linked with the twin problems of independence for Namibia and U.S. and South African demands for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Diplomats warned that any sudden escalation of the war, where South African units with artillery and aircraft have engaged well-dug-in Angolan and Cuban troops, could easily derail the peace-making.

South Africa has expressed serious concern at the recent reinforcement of Cuban troops in southern Angola, which brings their total number to about 40,000. Cuba said the move was necessary to counter growing South African involvement in the conflict.

Diplomats said the talks in London and Brazzaville had revealed room for compromise over timetables for the parallel issues of a Namibian independence plan and a Cuban troop withdrawal.

Angola has offered a total Cuban withdrawal over four years if South Africa first grants independence to Namibia and pulls its troops out of southern Angola.

Picking a running-mate — a risky business for Bush, Dukakis

By Michael Gelb

Reuter

WASHINGTON — A presidential nominee's choice of running mate is an early test of his judgment — and the emerging 1988 contenders are well aware that some recent picks have done their tickets more harm than good.

With this year's races virtually decided in favour of Republican Vice President George Bush and Democratic Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, the next big question is: Who will share their tickets?

The various prospects tend to be rated on their ability to add ideological or geographic balance to the national ticket.

But many political experts say a better criterion is simply finding someone who won't damage the ticket.

"If you can be sure they will carry their home state and keep you out of trouble, that ought to be the criterion," says Democratic strategist Robert Beckel.

Beckel speaks from painful experience. He managed former Vice President Walter Mondale's 1984 presidential campaign and took part in the decision to make Geraldine Ferraro, then a member of Congress from New York, the first woman on a major party presidential ticket.

It was a bold gamble aimed at energising a lacklustre Mondale campaign, but in the end the outspoken liberal Ferraro stirred much controversy and cost Democrats many votes.

On top of that, she failed to carry her home state and spent much of the campaign defending the reputation and financial deals of her husband, a millionaire real estate man.

These were liabilities Mondale never foresaw, but he was not the first to encounter vice presidential woes. A partial list of recent running mates, all chosen for the usual ticket-balancing reasons, suggests caution be the watchword:

On the Democratic side, recent talk has focused on Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn, a southern conservative with strong defence and foreign policy credentials, and Ohio Senator John Glenn, a midwestern moderate and former astronaut also known as a national

— Spiro Agnew, an obscure Maryland governor when Richard Nixon chose him in 1968, spawned one row after another with such verbal gaffes as calling a reporter a "fat Jap" and declaring that "when you've seen one slum, you've seen them all."

— Then-Senator Thomas Eagleton of Missouri withdrew as George McGovern's 1972 Democratic running mate upon disclosure he had undergone shock treatment for depression. The revelation and a desperate effort to find a replacement made a laughing-stock of McGovern and his campaign never recovered.

— Robert Dole, then a relatively junior senator, got much of the blame for President Gerald Ford's 1976 loss to Jimmy Carter because he came across as nasty and vindictive in campaign rhetoric and debates.

The last vice presidential candidate generally credited with playing a decisive role in winning a national election was Lyndon Johnson, whose home state of Texas provided critical electoral votes for John Kennedy's razor-thin 1960 victory over then-Vice President Nixon.

"I don't think any vice presidential candidate will get you a lot of electoral votes," one Bush aide said privately.

Recalling how the conservative Reagan turned to the moderate Bush to balance his ticket for the 1980 campaign against Carter, the Bush aide added: "Looking at the 1980 election, it is difficult to point to states that were brought to the ticket by George Bush."

Nonetheless, speculation on 1988 running mates is proceeding full-tilt and on the basis of who might, from one standpoint or another, "balance" a Dukakis or Bush ticket.

On the Democratic side, recent talk has focused on Georgia Sen. Sam Nunn, a southern conservative with strong defence and foreign policy credentials, and Ohio Senator John Glenn, a midwestern moderate and former astronaut also known as a national

security expert. Either would seem to complement Dukakis, a northeastern liberal with little experience in foreign policy.

Nunn was a runaway favourite in a recent poll of party leaders. The theory is that he would help win back votes in his native south, which has been drifting toward the Republican side for years and which Reagan swept in 1984.

Black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson also figures in current vice presidential speculation on the strength of his strong showing in this year's Democratic primaries.

Jackson would likely increase black turnout on behalf of the Democratic ticket and, perhaps, enable the party to carry several southern states with large black populations.

But blacks voted overwhelmingly Democratic in 1984 without Jackson on the ticket and opinion polls say many white Democrats would defect rather than vote for him.

On the Republican side, Bush is being urged by many to pick the governor of a big state, such as George Deukmejian of California or Jim Thompson of Illinois, who might help win their closely-contested home areas.

Others say he should take former Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, or Kansas Senator Nancy Kassebaum in order to attract women voters. But Bush is also weak in farming areas and some insiders think Kassebaum or Senate minority leader Robert Dole of Kansas, Elizabeth Dole's husband, could help him there.

Beckel and many other political insiders remain sceptical.

"Vice presidential candidates have a tendency to get you in trouble, either through personal problems or something they said that will haunt you," Beckel told Reuters.

"In many ways they're a walking time bomb."

Intervention in Afghanistan — was it a Soviet mistake?

By Robert Evans

Reuter

MOSCOW — "We had no choice," says General Vladimir Lobov. "The Afghan government asked us 16 times to come in and the point came when waiting any longer would have meant betraying our friends."

"Our institute," recalls academician Oleg Bogomolov, "expressed a profoundly negative attitude to the sending of troops into Afghanistan. We warned of the harm it would cause and said it had little chance of success."

"I do not consider it was a mistake, either political or military," Vladimir Sevruk of the Communist Party's propaganda department, told Reuters correspondent Helen Womack in Kabul this week.

"It is a pity they didn't ask the specialists on the area," declares veteran Moscow journalist and expert on Muslim affairs Igor Belyayev. "I certainly would not have recommended sending in our forces."

As the first Soviet troops pulling out of Afghanistan under the April Geneva peace agreements begin crossing the border and heading for home, the question is being increasingly asked in Moscow: was it all worthwhile?

The emerging debate, involving the unprecedented public questioning — if in retrospect — of a key Kremlin foreign policy move, differs radically from the post-Vietnam war discussion in the United States in the early 1970s.

During and after the Vietnam conflict, many American commentators questioned the "defence of freedom" motives proclaimed by successive administra-

tions in Washington. But in Moscow all sides insist, both on and off the record, that the intentions of then Kremlin leader Leonid Brezhnev and his inner circle of colleagues who took the decision in December 1979 were generally honest, if totally misguided.

"We went in not to win or lose battles," argues Lobov, first deputy chief of the general staff. "We did it because the Afghan people asked us to help defend their independence."

Journalist Alexander Prokhanov, a moderate critic of the operation, says the Kremlin was moved by a conviction that the presence of Soviet forces would "counter-balance powerful pressure from outside."

The then leadership, he says, believed the intervention would also help out an end to the bloody feuding between the two wings of the ruling PDPA People's Democratic Party which came to power in a leftist military coup in April 1978.

A 25-year-old veteran of the war, Alexander Karpenko, gave a soldier's view. "Coming back from Afghanistan, our boys often ask themselves: Why was I there?" he says.

"But then when we remembered the poverty and the children, we could see a meaning in the fact that we often risked our own lives delivering food to parts of the country where there was real starvation."

Belyayev, now foreign affairs analyst for the weekly literary gazette after years as Pravda correspondent in the Middle East, does not contest these views.

But he has a more pessimistic vision of the outcome of the intervention, which he argues has

strengthened the influence of anti-Soviet Muslim fundamentalism in Afghanistan, creating a potential problem for Moscow in its central Asian republics.

"It is the Afghans' own affair whether they have an Islamic Republic or not. But by sending in our troops we activated the people who stand at the head of the (guerrilla) alliance of seven in Peshawar," he told Reuters in an interview.

"Recently one of them declared: 'The task is now an Islamic revolution and an Islamic Republic, and then we have to set up links with our Muslim brothers and fellow believers in the Soviet Union.'"

"That is a point that worries us, naturally. By sending in troops, we helped them put that point onto the political agenda in Afghanistan," Belyayev said.

"We have now effectively recognised our historical mistake. And that is, that the despatch of troops, although it was justified by the requests from the Afghan side, was not necessary."

"We did not take into account the character of Afghanistan and the degree of its development. It is a country that was not even ready for a national democratic revolution."

"Economic backwardness and the strength of tribal, family and clan relationships were much more powerful than we could allow ourselves to imagine."

"I do not believe the Afghans want to carry through a revolution, although our mission was to help them do so," Belyayev said. "We were sincere friends in their eyes. But now our image has suffered a considerable blow, and restoring it is not going to be easy."

OPEN FORUM

The following poem was provided by the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief on the occasion of the national week for the mentally retarded in Jordan. The poem was written by the organisation's special teacher Birgitta Hemmingsson.

Habitual helplessness

Do you help me because you believe that I can't? I can, in ways other than you.

Do you help me because you think that I will not? I will, but not as you think.

Do you help me because you think I don't know? I know, but maybe things other than what you know.

Do you help me because you think I can't talk? I talk, I talk, but in quite another way.

Do you want to help me? do you want to help me be free, free from my habitual helplessness? then we can begin to help each other.

End of temple siege may not bring peace to Punjab

By Eileen Alt Powell

The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — The surrender of Sikh extremists from their Golden Temple lair marks the end of yet another government battle with the separatists, but the war is not over.

During the 10 days that more than 200 Sikh gunmen and their sympathisers were trapped inside the temple complex by a police cordon, their comrades killed 133 people in the holy city of Amritsar and other parts of Punjab state.

On Thursday, the day after the final surrender at the temple, the slayings of 15 more people were reported in Punjab, including two Hindu priests and a Sikh holy man.

Former Punjab Police Chief Julio F. Ribeiro, who now serves as security adviser to the state government, was asked if Wednesday's surrender signalled an end to terrorism in the state. "No, far from it," he said.

Sikh extremists began their guerrilla campaign for a separate homeland six years ago, accusing the Hindu-dominated federal government of discriminating against the minority sect and hampering economic development in Sikh dominated Punjab.

A peace accord signed by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1985 collapsed within a year.

The scattered killings blamed on Sikh radicals in 1982 mushroomed in 1987 and 1988 into widespread assaults on bus passengers, sleeping villagers and congested markets.

Police estimate there are now more than 3,000 Sikh men armed with increasingly sophisticated weapons. The government accuses neighbouring Pakistan of helping to provide the arms. Pakistan denies the charge.

The Indian government's greatest fear is that if the Sikh separatist movement is not contained, it could become a full-blown civil war and set an undesired example for other restive minorities in the country.

"So far, the terrorists are a small section of the population," said a government official who spoke on condition of anonymity. "We want to keep it that way."

Support within the Sikh community for the extremists may be waning. In 1984, an army raid on the Golden Temple, the holiest shrine of Sikhism, drew hundreds of angry Sikhs to protest rallies around the country.

The latest police action drew almost no objections from Sikh citizens. In fact, a gathering of Sikh temple managers in New

Delhi Wednesday passed a resolution praising what it called the government's "rescue" of the temple from the extremists' grip. Attempts at a political solution to end the Sikh violence has so far proved elusive.

Kushwant Singh, one of India's most respected Sikh writers, called recently for the government to abandon its past practice of trying to find a single, moderate Sikh to spearhead peace efforts and, instead, move to resolve Punjab's problems head on.

"What we have to find is not a person or persons to lead the Punjab, but to set out principles of conduct and stick to them no matter what the immediate consequences," Singh wrote in the Hindustan Times newspaper.

He called for the release of hundreds of Sikhs detained without trial for suspected separatist activities, prosecution of Hindu politicians and others accused of instigating anti-Sikh riots in 1984 and new investment to stimulate Punjab's faltering economy.

India's 14 million Sikhs make up less than 2 per cent of the country's 800 million people, but they are a majority in Punjab, the country's most fertile agricultural state.

Although Punjab leads the nation in wheat and rice production, it is falling behind other states in industrial development. The Sikhs are particularly angry that banks invest their savings in projects outside the state.

To date, the government approach to Punjab has alternated between conciliation and crackdown.

In June 1984, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sent the Indian army into the Golden Temple complex to rid it of extremists. Less than five months later, she was shot to death by two Sikh bodyguards in revenge.

Rajiv Gandhi, her son and successor, negotiated his Punjab accord the following year, but moderate Sikhs were never able to get it fully implemented or to convince the extremists it would answer their grievances.

The accord called for the settlement of land and water disputes between Punjab and neighbouring Haryana state, an inquiry into the anti-Sikh protests that followed Indira Gandhi's death and speedy handling of arrest and detention cases.

A frustrated Gandhi put the state under federal rule in May 1987. But last March, he ordered the release from prison of militant Sikh High Priest Jasbir Singh Rode, whom many saw as a possible intermediary with Sikh gunmen.

كندا والشرق

U.S. threatens Benin over alleged Libyan links

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has accused the West African country of Benin of allowing Libyan agents to use its territory as a base for extremist acts, a U.S. official said Friday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, confirmed a report in the New York Times that U.S. embassy officials had protested strenuously against Benin's tolerance of extremist activities to senior officials, including the country's president, Mathieu Kerekou said.

"The Libyans are using Benin as a hub" for their activities, the U.S. official told Reuters.

He also said some officials were considering telling Benin the United States would not support its negotiations for World Bank loans unless the country took a sterner position towards extremist activity.

"I don't think we have threatened them directly with pressure through the World Bank but it is being considered by some officials," the official said.

Israel reports growing ties with African states

TEL AVIV (R) — Fourteen black African governments that have no diplomatic ties to Israel have sent students and trainees to study in the Zionist state, according to a foreign ministry official.

The states include countries that have at times been publicly hostile to Israel, such as Ethiopia, Congo, Burkina Faso and Madagascar. Benad Avital, head of the Africa division at Israel's foreign ministry, said Friday.

"I am not making out of it more than one should... but there is no reason to keep their presence secret," Avital told Reuters in an interview.

He said President Chaim Herzog would receive the students next week on Africa Day, marking 25 years since the independence of most African states.

Avital said the presence of the students did not mean the coun-

The charges are based in part on a Feb. 20 incident in which two alleged Libyan agents and one Senegalese citizen were arrested at the airport in Dakar, Senegal, after arriving on an Air Afrique flight from Cotonou, Benin's largest town, via Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

They were carrying a sophisticated electronic time-delay firing device, 19 pounds of plastic explosives and TNT, 10 electrical detonators and other materials that could be used in making a bomb, as well as a pistol with a silencer and 25 rounds of ammunition.

After the Libyans were arrested in Senegal, Kerekou assured the United States that Mustafa Abu Seta, head of the Libyan people's bureau in Benin, was no longer in Benin and that a Libyan-backed import-export company known as Sabra had been closed for its suspected role in smuggling arms and supporting "Libyan extremism."

tries were about to resume ties with Israel, but said:

"Nonetheless, the leaders of some countries — because we know that in many cases the president himself takes the decision — have signalled they were ready to send nationals to Israel again."

He identified the other states as Tanzania, Chad, Nigeria, Mauritius, Senegal, Guinea, Rwanda, Botswana, The Central African Republic and Uganda.

Twenty-nine black African states broke ties with Israel during the 1973 war, but Zaire, Liberia, Ivory Coast and Togo in recent years have resumed full relations with Israel.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir visited Togo last year to resume ties and also stopped in several other African states.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEF

Hijackers of Kuwaiti plane killed in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Two pro-Iranian Lebanese Shi'ite men believed to have taken part in the hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner were killed in fighting in Beirut's southern suburbs, senior security sources said Saturday. They said Kasim Zain Al Dine and Fouad Kashman, members of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) militia, were killed fighting pro-Syrian Amal guerrillas last Monday. "The two were among four of the hijackers known to have returned to the suburbs earlier this month. All of them took part in the fighting in the suburbs," another source said. Nine hijackers seized a Kuwaiti Boeing 747 with 112 people on board April 5 in an attempt to force Kuwait to release 17 people jailed for bomb attacks in 1983. Kuwait refused. After stops in Mashhad, Iran, and Larnaca, Cyprus, where two Kuwaiti hostages were shot dead, the plane flew to Algiers, where the remaining hostages were released April 20 and the hijackers allowed to go free. The hijackers demands were the same as those made by the kidnappers of American and French hostages in Beirut.

Reagan names new envoy to Israel

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan plans to nominate William Andreas Brown, a veteran diplomat now serving as ambassador to Thailand, to succeed Thomas R. Pickering as ambassador to Israel, the White House announced Friday. Pickering, also a career foreign service officer, has been the U.S. ambassador in Tel Aviv since 1985. The White House announcement did not say what his new assignment would be. Brown, 57, was deputy chief of mission in Tel Aviv from 1979 to 1982, and principal deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs from 1983 to 1985.

U.S. helicopter wreckage raised

BAHRAIN (AP) — Salvage workers recovered the wreckage of a downed U.S. helicopter gunship from the Gulf Saturday and put it aboard a salvage tugboat, where investigators will examine it for crash clues. The Marine Corps AH-1 Cobra, which vanished April 18, hours after day-long clashes between U.S. and Iranian naval forces, was in three large pieces when lifted out of 40 metres of water off the United Arab Emirates coast. Investigators are primarily interested in finding out whether the helicopter was shot down, as Iran has claimed. Its two pilots have been officially declared "killed in action." Their bodies, recovered earlier, were flown back to the United States Friday.

Bombs wreck havoc in Piraeus

PIREAEUS, Greece (R) — Bomb blasts wrecked a police station, a discotheque, and a bar in this port city Saturday, a police spokesman said. There were no injuries. A left-wing guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the blasts at the police station and a nearby discotheque, saying they were aimed at the local "centres of the narcotics trade." Both the police offices and the Victoria disco were closed when the powerful bombs exploded early Saturday. An anonymous caller told a local newspaper the two attacks were carried out by the Revolutionary Popular Struggle (ELA), which has waged a bombing campaign against police stations, government offices and private businesses in recent years.

Beirut fighting tapers off

(Continued from page 1)

Syrians deploy in the suburbs. The possibility that they deploy their troops is very great.

"But on the other hand, there is still no decision on the form, how and with what guarantees the Syrian troops are to move into the area," he said.

Syrian Brigadier-General Ghazi Kanaan, chief of Syria's military intelligence in Lebanon, was in Damascus for consultations with his superiors, a source in the Syrian command in Beirut told the AP Saturday.

Queried whether he thought the presence of the foreign hostages in the Beirut slums created obstacles to the end of the violence, Fadlallah said: "I have no information to give an opinion on this matter."

The fighting hampered a Canadian clergyman's efforts to deliver a petition to Fadlallah to help free foreign hostages held in Lebanon.

Shultz: Negotiations mean land for peace

(Continued from page 1)

Peres returned Friday from Washington, where he met with Shultz and President Ronald Reagan.

In an airport interview, he said there were still disagreements between Israel and the Soviet Un-

ion on several issues including the question of Palestinian self-determination.

But Soviet officials told him they now agreed the international conference would not have the power to impose its views on Israel and the Arabs, Peres said.

He wants to meet Fadlallah. Most of the 18 foreign hostages, half of them Americans, are believed to be held by groups linked to Hizbollah.

Barnett said he has met Fadlallah twice on previous trips to west Beirut over the last two years. "He's aware that we're petitioning him," he said. "I told him that we were praying and that we're asking for his help to speak out. He said he'd already done so on many occasions and would continue to do so."

Awad's wife finds support for campaign against his expulsion

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The wife of an American-Palestinian ordered expelled from the occupied territories by Israel returned from the United States and said she had found support for her husband among American officials.

"Almost everyone I spoke with in Washington showed a real concern... that here is a man who renounced violence and terrorism," said Nancy Nye, the wife of Mubarak Awad. "If Israel wants to deport a person like this, who will they negotiate with?"

Awad, an advocate of non-violent resistance to Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, is in jail awaiting a supreme court hearing on his appeal to cancel the expulsion order. Israeli authorities said the Jerusalem-born Palestinian, who holds American citizenship, was in the occupied territories illegally because his tourist visa had expired.

Nye said she met with congressmen, Palestinian-Americans and State Department officials during a three-day trip to the United States to explain her husband's cause.

She said she met with Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, several Ohio congressmen and representatives of the State Department's human rights department.

Polisario welcomes Algiers-Rabat ties

ADDIS ABABA (Agencies) — A senior official of the Polisario Front movement said Friday he welcomed the rapprochement between Algeria, the movement's chief ally, and Morocco, which the guerrillas are fighting for control of the Western Sahara.

"Morocco made some important concessions in the joint accord it signed with Algeria, including recognising in writing for the first time the right of self-determination of the Saharawi people," Omar Mansour, "foreign minister" of the self-styled Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), said in an interview.

Morocco and Algeria restored diplomatic relations May 16 after a 12-year break caused by Algeria's recognition of Saharawi republic.

The Polisario Front has been fighting Morocco since 1975 for the independence of the Western Sahara.

Morocco annexed the region in 1975 after Spain withdrew as colonial ruler. Western Sahara is one of the world's most inhospitable areas, but it is rich in phosphates and iron and may have large oil deposits.

Mansour, in Addis Ababa for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) foreign ministers' meeting, dismissed talk that his movement would suffer because of the renewed ties between Morocco and Algeria.

"For us it is a victory for Algerian diplomacy and the right

of the Saharawi people to be independent," he said. "Our relations with Algeria are still good."

Morocco was a charter member of the OAU, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary. In 1984, Morocco became the first member to quit the pan-African organisation after the OAU voted in the SADR as the 51st member.

Show of strength

In Aousserd refugee camp, Algeria, the Polisario Front marked its 15th anniversary to the sound of martial music and the war cries of women and children.

About 5,000 fighters led a parade past leaders of the SADR, backed by an array of modern heavy weapons.

The ceremony was clearly designed to counter suggestions the Polisario was in trouble after the Algerian-Moroccan rapprochement.

The parade, near the Algerian border with the Western Sahara, highlighted Polisario's strength compared to its birth in 1973 to hasten Spain's departure from the area.

Spain ceded administrative control to Morocco and Maurita-

nia in 1976 but did not transfer sovereignty and a guerrilla war broke out. Mauritania withdrew from the fighting in 1979 and Morocco took over most of its share of the territory.

Against a backdrop of banners proclaimed "independence or martyrdom," the procession with camel-mounted nomad warriors who took part in the movement's earliest raids. It ended with modern Soviet and French-manufactured tanks rumbling three in a row through clouds of black sand.

The ceremony was watched by 400 foreign guests, mainly from the 71 countries that recognise the SADR, and sympathetic volunteer groups that provide aid to the Polisario's refugees, dispersed in four camps along the Algerian border.

Algeria was represented by a senior official of the ruling National Liberation Front, but unlike at the Polisario's 10th anniversary — government ministers were not present.

Behind 100-strong columns of 4,000 men and 1,000 women soldiers, clad in traditional green army fatigues, came tanks, heavy artillery, and troop carriers of United States, French, West German, Russian, and Austrian origin.

Analysts rule out Algeria dropping its support of the Polisario, but say it is likely to exert greater pressure for some form of diplomatic gesture

Turkey rejects talks with Greece on EEC

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkey has rejected a West German proposal to negotiate with Greece in efforts to improve its ties with the European Economic Community (EEC), Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz said Friday.

West German officials have told Turkey that an association meeting with the community cannot be convened before Germany's rotating presidency of the EEC comes to an end June 30, Yilmaz said.

After that date Greece assumes the presidency for the next six months.

"We were told that the future of the meeting depended upon bilateral talks between Greece and Turkey," Yilmaz told reporters.

But, he added, neither the EEC issue nor the Cyprus problem would be discussed when he visits Athens beginning Monday.

"In our understanding, the Cyprus problem is not a bilateral issue even though it influences these relations," he said. "Our relations with the EEC is not a bilateral issue either. It is out of question that the matter will be raised in my talks in Greece."

Last month a Turkish delegation headed by Yilmaz boycotted an EEC association meeting to protest a reference to the Cyprus problem in the opening statement of the trading bloc.

The phrase that Cyprus had a bearing on Turkish-EEC relations was placed in the statement

upon the insistence of Greece, an EEC member.

Turkey is an associate member since 1966. A year ago it applied for full membership.

Yilmaz will lead the Turkish delegation to the first meeting of a Turkish-Greek political committee established within the framework of a recent rapprochement between the two rival neighbours.

Turkey reacted coldly Friday to an EEC parliament resolution saying that Turkish troops must withdraw from north Cyprus before relations could improve.

"We don't think that the resolutions are serious or significant enough to warrant an official reaction," Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu told Reuters.

Turkish officials, whose tone towards the EEC has hardened in recent weeks, said the community would have to make the next move.

Diplomats say Cyprus policy is a matter of national pride for Turkey and Ankara is unlikely to soften its support for the breakaway Turkish republic of north Cyprus, declared in 1983 on territory occupied by the Turkish army.

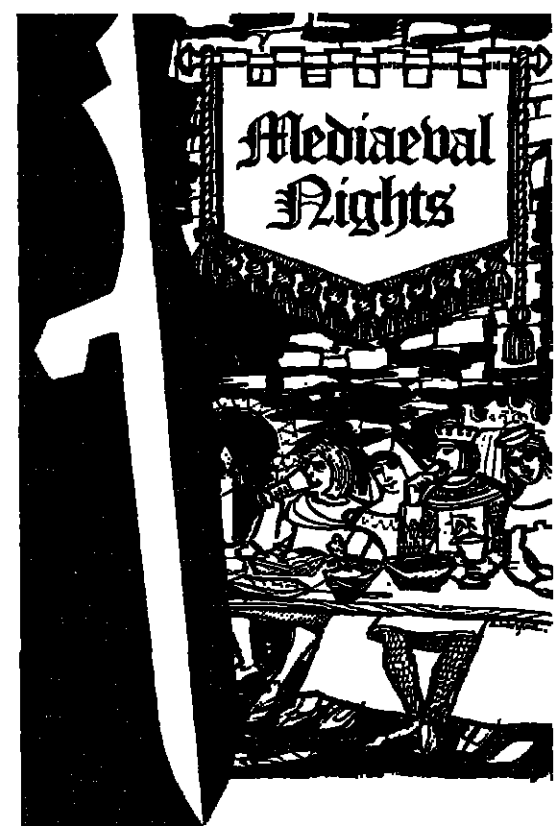
Yilmaz is likely to make the first visit by a Turkish foreign minister to north Cyprus to show moral support for the self-declared republic after his Athens trip, a senior Turkish-Cypriot official told Reuters.

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Kingdom perceived as Eurasian bridge

Jordan promotes particular potentials

This is the second of a three-part series by Jordan Times economics correspondent Salameh Ne'matt on the strategy behind Jordan's trade and investment missions abroad and the Kingdom's drive to increase foreign investment.

THIS WEEK'S Jordanian investment mission to the United States and a similar mission to Japan last month, are part of a new trend aimed at marketing Jordan abroad as a viable location for foreign investments and joint venture projects.

According to Dr. Mohammad Smadi, director of the Economics Research Department at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), the current slowdown in the Kingdom's economy, exacerbated by growing unemployment, have necessitated action both internally and abroad.

Smadi said that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan had been discussing with concerned parties in Jordan matters related to increasing internal investment through adjusting and

correcting financial and other procedures as well as creating investment alternatives.

This effort was coupled with the drive towards the implementation of projects contained in the national five-year development plan.

However, Smadi added, these measures are not enough. "There must be a drive to attract investments from abroad," he said. This, he contended, requires defining markets and capital sources abroad, to be tackled by Jordanian officials as well as private sector economic institutions.

This effort involves presenting Jordan's potential on its own, and as part of the region. Smadi said RSS was commissioned by the Ministry of Planning to study obstacles to investment from a

legal point of view and the creation of new instruments that facilitate and encourage investments.

He said the RSS has almost finalised the study which will be presented soon to the Ministry of Planning.

Another study was carried out by an international consultancy firm which presented a report comparing Jordan's investment climate with six other developing countries.

According to this study, Jordan is said to be a more attractive option for investment.

Presenting Jordan for foreign investment involves setting up project profiles on viable and profitable investments. Smadi says that there is a definite need in Jordan to tackle the question of having clear channels of investment for interested foreign investors that facilitate the process.

He echoed Prince Hassan's proposal for establishing a "one-window" investment channel so that foreign investors would not have to "go through 20 ministries and a million signatures."

"There should be a change in the traditional philosophy for encouraging investment," Smadi told the Jordan Times. "There is a need for more creativity, initiative and a more aggressive strategy."

Importance of marriage
Smadi stressed the importance of marrying venture capital with development capital. To attract this sort of investment in Jordan, new investment instruments need to be created and developed so as to benefit from already existing capabilities in the area of skilled

and trainable manpower, and the already established infrastructure.

"Jordan is talking about new frontiers of investments, new concepts that are capable of benefiting from the availability of the medium level science and technology infrastructure for the creation of high-tech new industries. The vehicle for such a development is the establishment of a science park," according to Smadi.

Such a science park, he said, would serve as incubators for new high-tech industries. "We need to link up with the internationally recognised institutions to develop Jordanian industries," he noted.

Smadi explained that promoting investment internally and abroad need not be carried out separately. "We have to constantly adjust to new developments internally, internationally and on the regional level."

He said the adaptation in Jordan is going on parallel lines. "We cannot stand still. We are living in a dynamic society. We work internally and go out to seek international investors."

Talking to everybody

He summarised Jordan's external investment strategy so as: "When we go outside, we do not talk about Jordan the small market, but as a bridge to the region — a gate to wider markets in the Middle East. This could be looked at through the Kingdom's strategic location in the region, its excellent political and economic relations with everybody. We are the only people talking to everybody. We already have bilateral

agreements with all Arab countries in the region, which provides us with an opening. Jordan lies on the Asian rim of Europe or the European rim of Asia. Jordan is located between huge markets in South West Asia and Europe."

Jordan has a \$750 million trade deficit with Europe, making the question of attracting European investments very important to offset this deficit. The Kingdom now has a marketing agreement with the European Community, along with Syria, Lebanon and Egypt.

Smadi said the Crown Prince was trying to promote Jordan's "particular potentials" by introducing its favourable position within inter-regional concepts. It is through such regional concepts that Jordan can become a channel for the U.S. and Japan in dealing with Europe.

On internal adjustments, Smadi believes there may be a need to drop interest rates by one point rather than floating interest rates. This, he said, should be done provided the move is studied well to prevent capital flight.

Long-term missions

Assessing trade and investment missions to Japan and the United States, Smadi pointed out that such missions go beyond immediate returns. "The immediate objective is a medium-term approach to invite foreign investors to take advantage of Jordan's favourable investment climate."

He said that Japan recognised Jordan's role in the stability of the entire region by supporting its economy. He said the mission to Japan succeeded in initiating high-level working contacts with Japanese businessmen and organisations.

Smadi pointed out that the difference between the visits to Japan and the U.S. is that Japan's was undertaken at a Jordanian initiative while the U.S. trip was an American initiative taken by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Model of private sector

Smadi said the American side "thinks Jordan can be a model" private sector initiative and an example for others.

He said the stress was on joint venture projects and the manufacturing of more intelligent products that would compete with high quality products in the U.S. market.

He said the same applies to the services industry and soft technology.

Smadi said the Crown Prince spoke often about the contract of generations. "There is still a lot to do," he pointed out, "and we are now seeding for the future."

UAE trade surplus surges

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) trade surplus surged 27.7 per cent to 18 billion dirhams (\$4.9 billion) in 1987 and the economy looks set for higher growth, the central bank said Saturday.

Higher oil prices boosted total exports and reexports to 44 billion dirhams (\$12 billion), 16.7 per cent up on 1986, the bank estimated in its annual report.

Imports rose 10.2 per cent to 26 billion dirhams (\$7.1 billion), with purchases from other Gulf states and some Asian countries growing strongly.

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Jordan Petroleum Refinery distributes 10% dividends

By Shafi Nicholas

AMMAN — Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) distributes dividends to shareholders at a rate of 10 per cent of the nominal value of each share. Each share values JD 5.

The dividends, which remain unchanged from the previous year and which amount to JD 3,200,000, resulted from a net profit after tax of JD 3,586,845 at the end of 1987 compared to a net profit of JD 3,551,333 at the end of 1986.

Total income from operations amounted to JD 6,382,635 last year in comparison to JD 5,992,753 during 1986 on a volume of sales which reached JD 245,207,114 in 1987 (JD

244,696,338 in '86). JPRC's balance sheet showed high liquidity, more inventory and an increase in current liabilities.

The figures were JD 9,124,958 in cash, JD 35,510,587 in receivables, JD 53,720,687 in inventory.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for May 21, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	476268	JD 355693	393
Top three companies:			
United Insurance Co.	127350	JD 127149	4
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	35250	JD 47095	61
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals Co.	11653	JD 30392	61
Parallel market:	26250	JD 14233	—
Development bonds:	100	JD 1025	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the two days of Saturday, May 14, '88 and Sunday, May 15, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	10672	15844	1.470	1.480	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	1750	2030	1.170	1.160	1,000
Housing Bank	650	1131	1.740	1.740	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5,000
Bank of Jordan	80	1270	16.060	15.800	5,000
Arab Bank	370	42240	114.250	114.100	10,000
Jordan National Bank	1066	2654	2.480	2.490	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	1650	1846	1.100	1.160	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	700	1158	1.920	1.910	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	2500	1300	0.520	0.520	1,000
National Financial Investments	50	90	1.800	1.800	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	200	144	0.700	0.720	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	1150	1564	1.350	1.360	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	75	58	0.770	0.770	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	100	1400	13.750	14.000	2,000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10,000

Insurance and reinsurance

Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
RECO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	1000	1070	1.070	1.070	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	10,000
Al-Izhar Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Beigah Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	80500	79900	1.000	0.980	1,000

Services and industries

General Investments	500	630	1.260	1.260	1,000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	2450	1019	0.410	0.420	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	960	374	0.390	0.390	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	2050	615	0.300	0.290	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	72832	12611	0.650	0.670	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance Ta'jeero	—	—	—	—	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	3058	4499	1.470	1.470	1,000
Irish District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aras International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	2100	1785	0.830	0.850	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	1000	3400	3.250	3.400	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	60850	26373	0.410	0.440	1,000
Jordan Dairy	2357	2341	0.980	0.990	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	3561	7093	1.980	2.000	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	54900	71538	1.260	1.320	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	373	839	2.220	2.250	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	17693	23423	1.320	1.320	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	500	1975	3.930	3.950	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	5150	6085	1.170	1.190	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	14818	26490	1.790	1.790	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	100	450	4.500	4.500	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	2452	2599	1.060	1.060	1,000
Chemical Industries	2000	3039	1.510	1.540	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	2950	1821	0.600	0.630	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Steel Industries	35150	97189	2.770	2.790	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	13000	20064	1.490	1.560	5,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	2840	20075	7.070	7.080	1,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	189900	44486	0.220	0.240	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	7350	8263	1.090	1.110	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Rafia Industries for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	66	201	3.000	3.050	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	28260	16865	0.570	0.610	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himah Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	60	117	1.950	1.950	5,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	84	336	4.000	4.000	1,000
Levstoc and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	8000	776	0.970	0.970	5,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	18660	14661	0.770	0.790	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	23200	57983	2.690	2.750	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	10342	11056	1.060	1.070	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	1812	1773	0.950	0.980	1,000
Grand total	686,722	646,599			

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NBA RESULT

NEW YORK (R) — Result of Friday's National Basketball Association (NBA) playoff game:

Eastern Conference Semifinal

Boston Celtics 102 Atlanta Hawks 100
(Best-of-seven series tied 3-3)

VOLLEYBALL STANDINGS

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — Standings of men's Olympic volleyball qualifying matches played Friday:

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
Italy	1	1	0	0	2
Kuwait	1	1	0	0	2
Sweden	1	1	0	0	2
Canada	1	0	0	1	1
Algeria	1	0	0	1	1
Taiwan	1	0	0	1	1

Top athletes meet in Brazil

SAO PAULO (R) — Britain's Steve Ovett, American Willie Banks and local hero Joaquim Cruz were some of the top names among a field of over 150 foreign athletes entered in Sunday's third International Brazil Athletics meeting.

"This is just the start of the season and we cannot think of breaking records now, but I'm sure fans will be very pleased with Sunday's meeting," Ovett, a former 1,500 metres record holder, told a press conference.

Ovett, who will run the 1,500 metres, will face Cruz, winner of the 800 metres gold medal at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984.

"I'm in good shape but my good results are only expected to start showing between July and August. No one wants to reach the peak well before the Olympic Games of Seoul," Cruz said.

The Brazilian, who missed most of the past two seasons through injuries, said he would likely run both the 800 and the 1,500 metres in Seoul.

"I'll definitely run the 800 metres. Depending on how things go, I'll also run the 1,500 metres," he said.

Banks, who is very popular in Brazil even after breaking the world triple jump record once held by Brazilian Joao Carlos de Oliveira, said he expected to break the 18 metres mark this season.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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♥ 5 2

♦ A K 6

♣ K Q 9 4 3

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♥ 10 9 6

♦ 8 3

♣ 10 6 2

EAST
♠ K J

♥ J 4

♦ Q J 10 5 4

♣ A J 8 5

SOUTH
♠ 10 8 4

♥ A K Q 8 7 3

♦ 9 7 2

♣ 7

The bidding:

East South West North

1 ♠ 1 ♥ 2 NT

Pass 3 ♥ Pass 4 ♥

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠

Here's a tip to add to the collection you have gleaned from this column; one which will pay rich dividends. Make the crucial defending hand be the first to commit himself to a play. This hand from a duplicate contest will illustrate what we mean.

We think South was selfish to rebid his hearts. In light of his partner's jump to two no trump, a raise to the no trump game was clear—after all, he was probably bringing his partner six tricks!

West led his top diamond, and declarer decided he would play for

overtricks. Since East surely held the ace of clubs, most declarers rated to lose a club trick and either two spades or a diamond and a spade, since one loser would go away on a high club.

After winning the king of diamonds, declarer led a low club from dummy at trick two. Afraid that declarer held the ten, East inserted the jack and forced out the ace of diamonds, but declarer's objective had already been attained.

He led the king of clubs from dummy for a ruffing finesse. East covered and declarer ruffed. After drawing trumps in three rounds, declarer crossed back to the table with the ace of spades and cashed the queen of clubs, on which he stuffed his last diamond. When the ten dropped from West, declarer was able to discard one losing spade on the board's nine of clubs and the other on the long club. That brought in two overtricks and absolute top on the board.

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BASEBALL STANDINGS

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league baseball standings after Friday's games:

	W	L	Pct.	GB
American League East Division				
New York	25	14	.641	—
Cleveland	25	15	.625	.5
Detroit	24	15	.615	1
Boston	20	17	.541	4
Milwaukee	20	19	.513	5
Toronto	17	23	.425	8.5
Baltimore	6	34	.150	19.5
West Division				
Oakland	29	11	.725	—
Texas	20	18	.526	8
Kansas City	20	20	.500	9
Chicago	18	21	.462	10.5
Seattle	18	23	.439	11.5
Minnesota	16	21	.432	11.5
California	17	24	.415	12.5

Friday's Games

Oakland 11, New York 3
California 4, Boston 2, 10 innings
Seattle 3, Baltimore 2
Detroit 14, Chicago 6
Kansas City 4, Cleveland 3
Toronto 3, Milwaukee 1
Minnesota at Texas, postponed due to rain.

	W	L	Pct.	GB
National League East Division				
New York	28	11	.718	—
Pittsburgh	24	16	.600	4.5
St. Louis	20	20	.500	8.5
Chicago	18	21	.462	10
Montreal	17	21	.447	10.5
Philadelphia	14	23	.378	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	23	15	.605	—
Los Angeles	22	15	.595	.5
Cincinnati	21	19	.525	3
San Francisco	21	20	.512	3.5
San Diego	14	26	.350	10
Atlanta	11	26	.297	11.5

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh 10, Atlanta 3
Cincinnati 7, Chicago 2
Houston 5, St. Louis 3
New York 5, Los Angeles 2
San Diego 4, Philadelphia 3
San Francisco 11, Montreal 2

Lewis-Johnson Paris series in doubt

RALEIGH, N.C. (R) — Chances are "50-50" that injured 100 metres world record-holder Ben Johnson of Canada will race American Carl Lewis in Paris next month as part of a million-dollar sprint series, Johnson's agent said Friday.

"If Ben is not 100 per cent, not only physically but confidence-wise, that he can beat him in Paris on June 27, then most likely we would elect not to run there," Larry Heidebrecht, Johnson's agent, told Reuters in a telephone interview from Williamsburg, Virginia.

Asked what the odds were that the two would meet in Paris for the 100 metres in a three-race series that includes another 100 metres and a 200 metres, Heidebrecht said: "Fifty-fifty."

Heidebrecht said he expected the proposed one-million dollar series between the leading contenders for the 100 metres Olympic gold medal in Seoul would take place this summer.

The Paris race tentatively had been scheduled as the first in the series with another on August 17 in Zurich. The site and date of the third race have not been determined.

UEFA Cup hero to manage Hamburg

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Days after announcing he would retire as a coach and leading Bayer Leverkusen to an historic UEFA Cup final victory, Erich Ribbeck agreed terms Saturday to become manager of Hamburg.

Hamburg president Ernst Naumann said in a radio interview Ribbeck would replace Felix Magath on July 1 as manager of the Bundesliga side.

Magath, a former international who still has three years of a five-year contract to run, was sacked because of Hamburg's continued poor form. Naumann said. Compensation had not yet been finalized, he added.

Ribbeck, who is to be replaced by former Dutch coach Rinus Michels, said Monday he would definitely not continue coaching after 23 years without winning a title.

That was before Leverkusen's recovery against Spain's Espanol in the UEFA Cup final second leg, coming from 3-0 down to dramatically win in a penalty shoot-out. It was the first title in the club's 84-year history.

This season Hamburg were knocked out of the European Cup Winners' Cup early on, failed to retain the West German Cup and failed to secure a place in European competition next year.

Naumann said it had still to be decided whether Ribbeck would be given the title of manager or technical director.

Beardsley takes England to European Championship finals

LONDON (R) — Peter Beardsley put England in good heart for the European Championship finals next month by scoring the only goal of a disappointing Rous Cup match against Scotland at Wembley Saturday.

The Liverpool striker made up for the disappointment of being on the losing side in the F.A. Cup final against Wimbledon a week ago by scoring in the 11th minute after an exchange of passes with Gary Lineker.

England, who dominated a match devoid of much of the passion which is a traditional ingredient of clashes between the two sides, would have won more convincingly but for Scottish goalkeeper Jim Leighton.

He made a number of acrobatic saves, three of them during a period when England were rampant towards the end of the first half.

Scotland, who managed only seven goals in eight matches in an abortive attempt to qualify for the European Championship, were a pale shadow of some of their great sides of the past. They were devoid of inspiration in attack, Ally McCoist and Mo Johnston, two of the most feared strikers in the Scottish League, making little or no impression on a solid England defence.

The Scots, spurred on by their contingent of fans, made the early running, but they flattered only to deceive.

Once Beardsley, who posed most problems for the Scotland defence, kicked home from the edge of the six-metre box, the Scots were never a serious threat

again. England goalkeeper Peter Shilton was a spectator for much of the match. He was not forced to make a serious save until the 81st minute when he kept out a shot from substitute Kevin Gallagher with his feet.

By contrast, Leighton was often forced to show the class which prompted Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson to recruit him recently from Aberdeen.

He kept Scotland in the hunt towards the end of the first half with a save at full stretch from Lineker and then made a great smothering stop from Beardsley as he cruised in for the kill.

Four minutes later Leighton made another flying save from an angled shot by Webb.

The pick of his second half saves denied fullback Kenny Sansom a rare international goal. Leighton flung himself backwards to touch his 20-metre effort around the post.

England will be looking for a further boost for the European Championship when they take on Colombia in the final match of the Rous Cup at Wembley Tuesday.

Lendl-McEnroe matchup early possibility

PARIS (AP) — Defending champion Ivan Lendl was drawn Friday for a fourth-round meeting with American John McEnroe at the French Open, setting up a possible replay of one of the most memorable matches in tennis history.

Lendl, top-seeded in the men's

field, and West Germany's Steffi Graf, the women's No. 1 seed, both drew French opponents for their first-round matches, which get under way Monday.

The Czechoslovak-born Lendl, seeking his third consecutive French Open title and third in four years, will begin play against

Philippe Pech. Graf, 18, who won her first Grand Slam title in Paris a year ago, opens against Nathalie Guerin.

Both Pech and Guerin are wild-card entries in the tournament, which runs through June 5 on the red clay courts.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Botha comments on Zola Budd case

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — President P.W. Botha, in his first public comments on the Zola Budd controversy, said Friday night that South African athletes should "hang in there" despite the international sports boycott. He described as "petty behavior" the four-year campaign by anti-apartheid activists that prompted Budd to abandon her bid to race for Britain in the Seoul Olympics. The 21-year-old runner withdrew from competition and returned to South Africa this month. "This type of persecution mania should serve only to make our sportsmen more determined to achieve world class performances," Botha said at a ceremony honouring several of the country's top athletes. He expressed thanks to South Africans engaged in efforts to circumvent the boycott, observed by numerous international sports bodies as a gesture of protest against apartheid. "At some stage or other, the sports world is going to return to normal," Botha said. "Hang in there."

Atletico negotiating to sell Alemao

MADRID (R) — Atletico Madrid are negotiating to sell Brazilian midfielder Ricardo Brito Alemao to an Italian soccer club, Atletico president Jesus Gil said Friday. "We have offers which could be firm up in the next few days," Gil told reporters. He did not give details of which clubs were interested or how much they were offering. He denied a Spanish press report that the club had already agreed to sell Alemao, who joined Atletico last season, to Italian side Transalpino for \$2.7 million.

Finns join world's biggest fun run for women

HELSINKI (R) — About 18,000 women took part in a 10-kilometres (six miles) run round the Finnish capital Saturday in what organisers said was the biggest event of its type in the world.

There are no winners in the women's ten, no times are kept, the course is chosen mainly for its aesthetic beauty and each finisher receives a flower and a picnic lunch, paid for with an entry fee. Anneli Makela, one of three full-time organisers of the race, said she and a group of fellow-runners decided to stage the first in 1984 with the aim of having fun rather than competing. "Almost everywhere in the world people think sport is so serious but we didn't think so, she said. The first attracted 300 entrants and Makela said she believes the event is now the biggest non-competitive run in the world for women. Some men run but the men's role on the day is to give out the flowers, she said.

Defected athlete to compete for Turkey

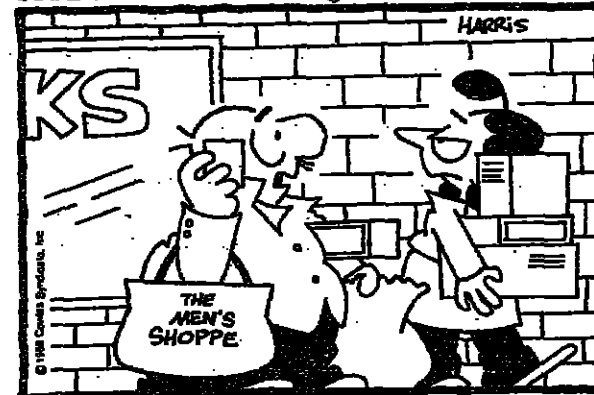
LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Bulgaria has agreed to let world-class weightlifter Naim Suleymanoglu, who defected to Turkey in 1986, compete in the Summer Olympics for his new homeland, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said Friday. The international weightlifting federation approved Turkey's request for the switch earlier, IOC spokeswoman Michele Verdier said. The Bulgarian Olympic Committee's approval was needed to fulfil IOC eligibility requirements, she said.

United States clinches spot in final

DUESSELDORF, West Germany (AP) — The United States defeated Argentina 2-1 Friday to enter the finals of the \$750,000 World Team Cup tennis tournament. The U.S. team will almost certainly face Sweden, which took an unbeatable 3-0 lead over Spain in rain-delayed action Thursday and Friday. Sweden is to face Czechoslovakia Saturday, but the match will have no bearing on the tournament's final outcome. U.S. doubles partners Ken Flach and Robert Seguso defeated Argentina's Eduardo Bengoechea and Martin Jaite 6-2, 7-6 to break a 1-1 deadlock and clinch the Americans berth in the finals.

THE BETTER HALF.

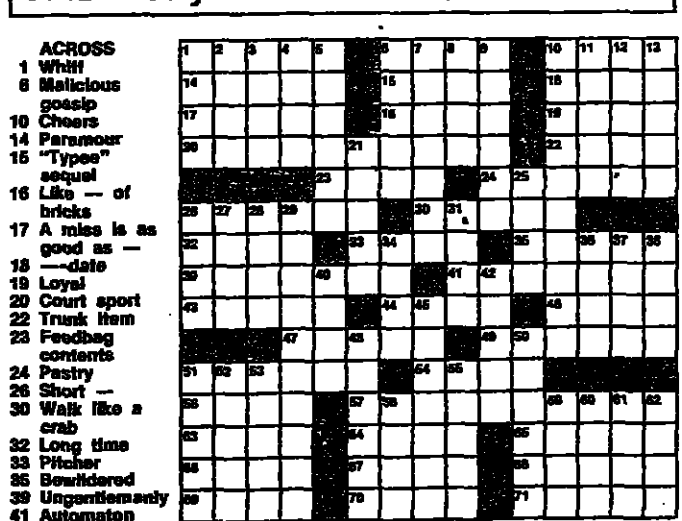
By Harris



"If you listen very carefully, you can hear our credit card hyperventilating!"

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by I. Miller



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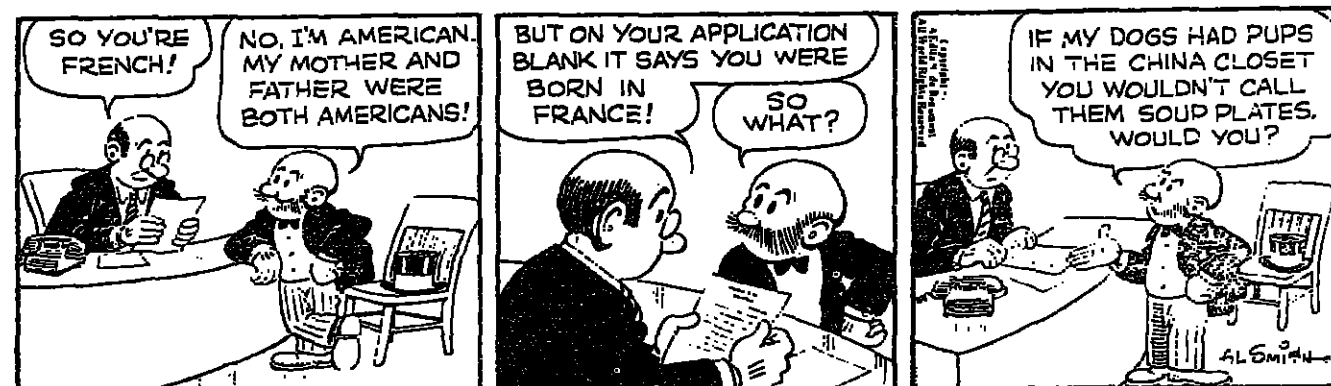
Yesterday's Puzzle Solvent:

1 Down: 7 Deadlock
2 Across: 8 Moslem
3 Down: 9 Drive a
4 Across: 10 Disappointed
5 Down: 11 Entrance
6 Across: 12 Beautiful
7 Down: 13 Scott
8 Across: 14 US statesman
9 Down: 15 of old
10 Across: 16 Positives
11 Down: 17 Great warmth
12 Across: 18 Took a cab
13 Down: 19 Leading
14 Across: 20 Division word
15 Down: 21 Ruth's in-law
16 Across: 22 Help of sorts
17 Down: 23 Chicago or
18 Across: 24 novel
19 Down: 25 Caddy
20 Across: 26 See HIA
21 Down: 27 Saying
22 Across: 28 Pries
23 Down: 29 Yeams
24 Across: 30 Columbus's
25 Down: 31 portinger
26 Across: 32 Schmo's kin
27 Down: 33 Here
28 Across: 34 Here
29 Down: 35 Townsman
30 Across: 36 Soviet city

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

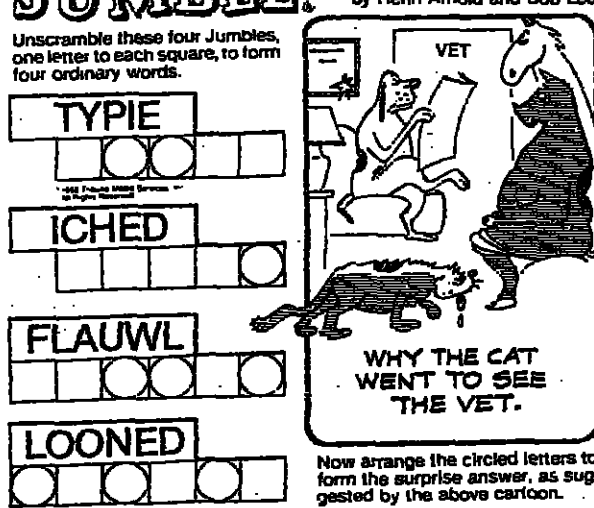


Andy Capp



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HE WAS "VET" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VOUCH WAFER HELMET FINERY
Answer: That huge boat show had this—A YACHT TO OFFER

Punjab police promise protection to halt exodus

AMRITSAR (R) — Police trying to stem the exodus from Punjab state of thousands of Hindu migrant workers have promised them greater protection from attacks by militant Sikh separatists.

At least 4,000 Hindus working on a canal project in the prosperous northern Indian state rushed to railway stations to flee home after the latest killing.

"We are trying to persuade them not to go and to give them security," Punjab police chief K.P.S. Gill told Reuters. At least 155 people have been killed in separatist attacks since Wednesday, when the last of some 200 Sikh militants barricaded inside Amritsar's sacred Golden Temple surrendered after a 10-day siege by paramilitary police.

At least 55 of the victims were poor Hindu workers drawn by the

prospect of work in Punjab, where the militants are waging a bloody campaign for an independent Sikh homeland they call Khalistan — land of the pure.

In the latest killing, police said extremists armed with AK-47 assault rifles burst into a Sikh-owned farmhouse near Amritsar and killed nine Hindu workers. No one else was attacked.

The nine were working on the same canal as 30 migrant Hindu workers who were hauled out of their beds and killed Wednesday near Chandigarh, the Punjab state capital, just before the siege ended.

Migrant workers are essential

to the Punjab economy and every year some 800,000 come looking for work.

Gill said most of the attacks on Hindus had occurred in the central and southern parts of the state and that thousands were fleeing in panic.

If necessary, Hindu workers in those areas would be taken to camps where they could be protected more easily than in the countryside, he said.

"The extremists have picked on them basically because they are a very soft target and they are available in large groups," Gill said.

Since the separatist campaign began in earnest in 1981, the militants have conducted widespread assassinations of opponents and suspected police informers, as well as random killings.

Militants have said they wanted to frighten Hindus out of Punjab, where Sikhs are barely a majority, and create an anti-Sikh backlash elsewhere in India to force their own people to return to the state.

With Hindu workers now crowding rail and bus stations, that seems to be working, at least for the moment.

"We are not even waiting to settle our dues with our employers," said one at Chandigarh railway station.

In the past few days, as well as the migrant workers, victims have included six people mown down at a bus stop and at least 14 killed by bombs planted on buses running between Punjab and neighbouring Himachal Pradesh state.

Pendley said the U.N. Command is making every effort to preserve stability on the border and avoid confrontation with the North. Peace is vital to ensure the safety of the Olympics, he said.

North Korea has said it will boycott the games because South Korea and the International Olympic Committee rejected its demand to co-host the event. South Korea has offered to let the North stage up to five Olympic events.



Francois Mitterrand

Mitterrand begins new term

PARIS (AP) — President Francois Mitterrand began his second seven-year term Saturday, promising to try to unite Socialists and non-Socialists behind his policies.

Speaking during a 20-minute inauguration ceremony, Mitterrand said his May 8 re-election, in which he defeated conservative Jacques Chirac, who then resigned as premier, "was not the good ones winning over the bad ones, nor the other way around."

He called on French people to work together "so that the principle of hope might triumph over the compulsions of fear and confrontation."

Mitterrand, 71, has called legislative elections for June 5, with runoff June 12, in which Socialists backing new Premier Michel Rocard are expected to win a large majority in the 577-seat national assembly.

Before Mitterrand spoke, the president of the Constitutional Council read the official election results. Mitterrand was presented with the grand necklace of the order of the legion of honour, of which he is the titular head.

The French constitution does not spell out how to mark the change from one presidency to another. There is no oath of office. The last time a French president succeeded himself, when Charles de Gaulle was re-elected in 1965, the ceremony was similarly low-key.

18 rebels killed in Mozambique

MAPUTO (AP) — Government troops killed 18 guerrillas in recent fighting just north of the capital of Maputo, the national news agency AIM reported Saturday.

AIM said the clashes took place Wednesday outside the town of Maluana, located on the country's main north-south road about 50 kilometres north of Maputo.

Report recommends 6-step SDI deployment

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States should deploy a "Star Wars" anti-missile defence in six phases starting with 100 ground-based interceptors, a Pentagon advisory board said in a report released Friday.

The report to Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci suggested initial deployment of 100 interceptors, perhaps around Washington or in the western United States to shelter some U.S. strategic missiles from accidental attack or blackmail.

The defence science board did not suggest any date for initial deployment, but defence experts have said that even a simple first phase of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) was not possible until the mid-1990s.

The science board, comprised mostly of defence industry leaders, said other types of anti-missile defences such as sophisticated space-based lasers could be added to SDI, commonly called "Star Wars," in five subsequent phases.

"In view of technical, budgetary, political and arms control uncertainties surrounding the ballistic missile defence programme, the panel recommends planning a number of steps... rather than a single major action," the report said.

Defence officials cautioned Friday that the report, dated April 13, was still under study and did not signal any shift in Reagan's hopes to eventually protect the whole U.S. population from nuclear missile attack.

Berserk woman's rampage ends with one child killed

WINNETKA, Illinois (R) — A woman killed a child and wounded five others in a school shooting after trying to burn down another school and firebombing the home of a family where she worked as a babysitter, officials said.

Federal agents were hunting the woman, Lori Dann, 30, when she walked into an elementary school and opened fire after telling a classroom of second grade pupils: "I'm going to teach you about life."

Red-haired Dann shot herself dead Friday after barricading herself in a house in this wealthy Chicago suburb and wounding a 20-year-old man who tried to disarm her.

Most of the victims of her shooting rampage were in critical condition at two hospitals but doctors said they were expected to live.

Nicholas Corwin, 8, died of a chest wound in the classroom at Hubbard Woods school where Dann went on her rampage.

Winnetka police chief Herbert Timm said Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents were hunting Dann at the time of the

shooting for making telephone death threats and were aware that she had a permit to carry a heavy-calibre pistol. "They couldn't locate her," he said.

She was also involved in an icepick attack on her husband during their brief marriage and had been arrested for shoplifting, police said.

Dann's day of rage began with a visit to a woman for whom she had been babysitting. The woman said she let Dann take one of her children for a ride.

When she returned, Dann threw a petrol bomb down the stairs, trapping the woman and her children in the basement. They escaped through a window.

The family had told Dann they could no longer employ her because they were moving. Another child in the family attended the Hubbard Woods school.

Timm said after the woman walked into the school, her first stop was a boy's bathroom, where she shot a youngster.

"She left him and ran into one classroom, telling the teacher there that a boy had been wound-

ed," said Timm. "Then she entered a second classroom, announced she had a gun and opened fire."

Police recovered a .32-calibre handgun from the school bathroom and the woman was believed to also have carried a .22-calibre gun and a third, unidentified weapon, according to Timm.

"It was a traumatic scene" Friday inside the one-story, red-brick Hubbard Woods elementary school, said Timm. "Kids were lying around in very serious condition. Kids were hiding under the desk as well as they could."

Dann fled in a car but crashed a short distance from the school. She then burst into a house where she shot and wounded Philip Andrew who tried to take her gun away.

Dann refused to surrender, ignoring appeals from her parents who were brought to the scene. Police entered the house more than seven hours later and found her dead in an upstairs bedroom of a self-inflicted shot in the head.

Tutu accuses opponents of creating sanctions hysteria

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Archbishop Desmond Tutu likened apartheid to Nazism during an emotional ceremony Friday in which he was installed as chancellor of the country's most militant university.

The black Anglican leader, who returned Thursday from a month-long trip to Europe and the United States, also defended his controversial appeals for tougher Western sanctions against South Africa.

"The problem is not sanctions, the problem is apartheid," Tutu told students and staff at the University of the Western Cape. "I want apartheid destroyed, not reformed. If it can be done away with without sanctions, I will sing hallelujah."

Tutu's calls for punitive sanctions were covered extensively by the South African media during his trip. His remarks have been denounced not only by the government but also by white and

black moderates who contend that sanctions will increase black unemployment without inducing whites to accept reforms.

"There are those who seek to generate hysteria," Tutu said of his critics. "The onus is on those who oppose sanctions to provide a viable, non-violent alternative."

Tutu, who encountered a few dozen hostile protesters on his return Thursday, who greeted by

several hundred cheering students when he arrived at the university's main hall before the ceremony.

His aides had to form a human wall around him as they ushered him through a crowd chanting the archbishop's name and waving supportive placards with slogans like "Viva sanctions" and "Viva Tutu."

Ethiopia and Somalia complete troop withdrawal

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Ethiopia and Somalia have completed the withdrawal of troops from their borders, the Ethiopian News Agency reported Saturday. The government-owned agency said a ceremony was held Friday in the northern Somali town of

Hargeisa to mark the redeployment of the last troops to 15 kilometres from the border.

Ethiopia and Somalia agreed April 4 to restore diplomatic relations broken 11 years ago when they went to war over the semi-arid Ogaden region of Ethiopia.

Noriega: U.S. must accept Solis Palma as president

PANAMA CITY (R) — Military strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega said Friday that no talks were possible with the United States on resolving Panama's political crisis unless Washington accepted acting President Manuel Solis Palma.

At a rally in the working class district of San Miguelito, General Noriega told a crowd of supporters that respect for Solis Palma, who replaced ousted President Eric Arturo Delvalle, was a precondition for the start of conversations.

The United States recognises Delvalle, who was voted out of office February 26 after trying to fire Noriega for having been indicted by two U.S. grand juries in Florida on drug trafficking and racketeering charges.

"It is important to affirm that the conversations which should take place between civilised men are based on... respect, dignity, even though one is bigger and the other smaller... and respect for

the president of the republic who is accepted by the Panamanian people, Manuel Solis Palma," Noriega said.

Washington has backed Delvalle, in hiding here for nearly three months, with a campaign of economic sanctions geared to force Noriega to step down.

The U.S. envoy leading talks with Manuel Antonio Noriega aimed at the Panamanian strongman's ouster was to consult with top Reagan administration officials this weekend as they sought to end an embarrassing imbroglio.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the envoy, Michael Kozak, was due back in Washington Friday night and it was unclear when, or if, he would return to Panama.

But Redman and other U.S. officials insisted Kozak's return was neither a sign that negotiations with Noriega had broken down irrevocably.

"The talks have not broken down, nor has there been an agreement or no agreement. The process still continues, but I'm not going to characterise what's on the table," said a White House official, who asked not to be identified.

Kozak, deputy assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, has made several trips to Panama in recent weeks trying to negotiate General Noriega's departure from power.

Current talks have focused on a face-saving deal whereby the United States would drop drug charges against Noriega if he stepped down as Panama's military chief and de facto ruler.

This has proved an embarrassment to the Reagan administration, which has been unable to force Noriega's removal through tough economic sanctions and had to turn to plea-bargaining with a man it has branded a criminal.

Sectarian gangs could bring mayhem back to Belfast

By Paul Majendie
Reuters

BELFAST — Northern Ireland could face a return to the black days of the 1970s when sectarian murder gangs picked victims at random, slitting their throats and bludgeoning their heads to a pulp with hatchets.

Police, probing last Sunday's killing of three Catholics in a Belfast bar that the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF), one of the most ruthless Protestant paramilitary groups, is ready to wreak havoc throughout a long, hot and bloody summer.

Twelve people have now died in sectarian shootings this year, 10 of them staged by Protestant paramilitary extremists.

Police, admitting their serious concern in a statement, have stepped up street patrols because these sectarian gangs "are engaged in a renewed campaign of murder and attempted murder. The atrocity in Belfast at the weekend tragically highlights this worrying trend."

And the outlawed Irish Re-

publican Army (IRA), has warned that it "reserves the right to execute those responsible for organising the killings of Catholics."

Detectives investigating Sunday's killing — two gunmen burst into a Catholic bar and sprayed it with semi-automatic rifles until their ammunition ran out — fear the UVF may have murder gangs armed to the teeth and ready to strike again.

The triple slaying recalled the deadly "spray jobs" of the 1970s, the nickname given by shadowy Protestant paramilitary groups to the machine gun attacks they often launched on Catholic pubs. Car bombs were another favoured tool.

The UVF first won notoriety in 1966 when it killed two Catholics. It was most active in the early 1970s and the British government declared the organisation illegal in 1975 when it admitted responsibility for 12 killings in one day.

In February this year northern Ireland police uncovered a UVF arms dump in Belfast

which contained Czechoslovak rifles, an RPG 7 rocket launcher, grenades and up to 40,000 rounds of ammunition.

Security sources believe that may be only half of the consignment that was smuggled in, most probably through Middle East arms dealers.

The UVF, like the IRA, would have financed the arms purchases through bank robberies, mafia-style racketeering and profits from lucrative local drink clubs.

When the three young Catholic drinkers were shot dead in Belfast's avenue bar, one local councillor likened their killers to the infamous "Shankill Butchers" of the 1970s.

In 1978, 10 UVF members from the Shankill Road, the Protestant heartland of Belfast, were jailed for a string of 19 gruesome sectarian murders. Seven of their victims had their throats cut, others were bludgeoned to death. Some were machine-gunned from passing cars.

But the man believed to be

their leader, Lennie Murphy, was in prison for another offence at the time of the "Shankill Butchers" trial, and he was never charged with the killings.

Four months after he was released from jail in 1982, Murphy was shot dead by the IRA near his Belfast home.

The 1980s were disastrous for the UVF because their ranks were hit by "supergrasses" — dozens of its members were imprisoned on the word of informers.

Then the IRA struck again in 1986 after seven people were killed in a deadly new round of sectarian killings. They "executed" John Bingham, claiming he was "operations officer" in Belfast for the UVF.

"We shall avail ourselves of every opportunity to remove from the face of the earth those who callously gun down and murder our people," the IRA warned after the Bingham killing.

The bloodbath on the streets did not stop there because the IRA then claimed responsibility in 1987 for killing "frenchie"

merchant, a portly figure they said was UVF second-in-command.

Last Sunday's Belfast bomb attack was the worst single casualty toll this year since a lone gunman attacked an IRA funeral in March, killing three mourners.

Irish and British ministers as well as community leaders across the political and sectarian divide in Northern Ireland have called for calm after the Belfast bar massacre.

But security chiefs are sharply aware that the summer is traditionally a time of high tension in Northern Ireland when Protestant and Catholic marchers take to the streets for parades to mark religious battles which took place three centuries ago.

The Irish Times, reviewing the re-emergence of the murder gangs who could provoke sectarian mayhem on the streets, concluded "once again Belfast seems to be on the brink of a return to the darkest days of the troubles — the 'tit-for-tat' killings of the mid-seventies."



Chinese taxman trampled

PEKING (R) — A Chinese farmer has been sentenced to death for driving his tractor over a tax inspector and crushing him to death, the official legal daily said Wednesday. Wei Chengquan, a peasant in the southern region of Guangxi, was driving eight pigs to market and had avoided a tax inspection post on the main road by taking a side route. Tax inspector Huang Rongfu and five other officials caught up with Wei and ordered him to stop. "Not only did Wei refuse to slow down, he deliberately accelerated and burst through, knocking down Huang and running him over," the daily said. A district court rejected Wei's appeal against the death penalty.

Mermaids protest against arms at sea

LONDON (R) — Demonstrators dressed as mermaids and other sea creatures dumped a bucket of fish on the steps of Britain's defence ministry Thursday in a protest against sea-based nuclear weapons. The protest, staged by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), marked the beginning of the movement's disarmament week. A CND official said the dead fish symbolised the threat nuclear weapons posed to the world and the ecology of the seas. CND general secretary Meg Beresford led a procession of members — some dressed in fallout uniforms or in mermaid costumes — to the ministry and accused the British government of ignoring international disarmament initiatives by going ahead with its Trident nuclear submarine programme. She handed in a letter for defence secretary George Younger calling on the government to cancel Trident and encourage international disarmament of nuclear and conventional weapons at sea.

Don't lose it or you pay

PEKING (R) — Chinese women have been fined for losing their virginity before marriage, traded like goods and are being lured into prostitution, according to a candid expose in an official magazine. May's edition of China Bridge said zealous authorities in Dali in the southern province of Yunnan had fined women 50 yuan (\$3) if pre-marital check-ups revealed they were not virgins. "Some women committed suicide because of this," the magazine said, quoting the official Yunnan Legal News. China Bridge said the fines were illegal but many peasant women did not know their sexual rights. Health checks are compulsory in China before couples are allowed to marry but there is no law expressly prohibiting sex before marriage. In its frank article headlined "Sexual Problems in Mainland China," the magazine exposed widespread exploitation of women, ignorance of young people on questions of sex and warned against the rising dangers of venereal diseases and AIDS. It urged the authorities to draw up precise laws defining sexual crimes and protecting people's rights. "Because there are no clear rules defining the severity of sexual offences, verdicts can depend on whether the judge is feeling happy or not," a lawyer was quoted as saying. Women in the coastal province of Zhejiang were being bought and sold like property and in neighbouring Fujian this was leading to forced marriages, even with children. One bride was only 11 years old, the magazine said. China Bridge said prostitution was spreading in China with many women lured into it and others willingly starting the trade. A 28-year-old woman called Zhu said: "I saw people with their golden necklaces and golden rings and thought I'd like to break into this world and become wealthy. So I started this lucrative trade."

75-year-old seeks Mr. Universe title

CALCUTTA (R) — Former Mr. Universe Manohar Aich has come out of retirement at the age of 75 to bid for the Indian bantamweight bodybuilding title. The 1.47 metre, Aich said he feared the bodybuilders association would bar him on grounds of age from representing West Bengal at the national championships in the western town of Ahmedabad Friday. "So I asked them and they agreed. That is when I started training seriously. I am still very strong and muscular," the former circus strongman told reporters as he headed for the contest. Aich said he quit competitive bodybuilding in 1960 after winning a bronze medal in the Mr. Universe contest, the title he won in 1952.

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